

Minutes
Virginia Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program Advisory Committee
Hearing Regulations Task Force
October 30, 2008
10 am- 12 noon

12 VAC 5 80: “Virginia Hearing Impairment Identification and Monitoring System”

Conference Call Attendees:

Virginia Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program Advisory Committee

Members and Interested Parties:

Leslie Ellwood
Christine Evans
Kristin Gordon
Ken Henry
Lisa Powley
Sandra Woodward

Virginia Department of Health Staff:

Michelle Ballard
Nancy Ford
Ruth Frierson
Gayle Jones
Lou Lambert
Susan Thlusty

The group met via conference call to discuss developing proposed regulations for 12 VAC 5 80.

A draft of possible proposed text was reviewed. Suggestions for modifications to definitions were discussed including modification of “child” and “primary healthcare provider” and additions for “board” and “chief medical officer”.

Risk indicators have been moved to a separate section. The need to further refine this text was discussed including the need to add statements that the regulations are consistent, “but not necessarily identical to” with JCIH recommendations and to add “Family History of” to risk factors 6-8.

The group discussed the change to the protocols to require ABR screening for infants in the NICU longer than 5 days. This will necessitate some changes in practices at NICUs in the state (at least 4 according to latest VEHDI equipment survey).

The group discussed the exception for infants with medical conditions contraindicating screening due to poor prognosis and the group ultimately decided to exclude this cause. Discussion was also had regarding inserting a waiver or form for refusals, however, this will not be added in regulation but left up to individual facilities.

The group discussed issues related to definition of primary health care provider and the problems of identifying this person in the hospital. One suggestion was made to use medical home as the proper terminology. The group decided to use the attending physician of record as the one to be notified of results.

To provide further clarification, the group decided to add “early intervention” wherever Part C is mentioned.

The first proposed text version has been sent to the attorney general’s office counsel to the department for review particularly in regards to definitions, the scope of reporting, and issues with birthing centers. Once that feedback is received a new draft will be developed and the group will meet to review again.