



429.04 Medical Consent - Voluntary Placement



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CHAPTER 4, Adoption and Birth Parent Services

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For children placed through voluntary placement, the agency has the authority to consent to emergency and routine medical care. When the parent/guardian's whereabouts are unknown, the agency should obtain the court's authority in order to be able to consent to major medical procedures.

Adoption Specialist

1. Coordinates routine medical care as needed, and involves parents/guardian/caregivers, as appropriate;
2. In an emergency, attempts to notify the parent that the child needs emergency medical care;

Adoption Administrator or Designee

3. Gives consent for emergency medical care. Treatment should not be delayed if the approval process presents a serious risk to the child's health;

Adoption Specialist

4. Reviews relevant court orders as necessary. Informs the parent(s)/guardian of the need for the medical procedure, assists the parent(s)/guardian in completing the consent paperwork; and

5. If the parent/guardian is not available, their whereabouts are unknown, or they refuse to consent, coordinates and conducts a staffing to determine if court intervention is needed for removal of custody with authorization to consent or for court authorization to consent pursuant to S.C. Code 20-7-652:

- a. Includes in the staffing the County Director, Adoption Administrator or designee, guardian ad litem, supervisor, foster/adoptive parents and agency worker as appropriate;
- b. Submits an emergency petition to the Family Court;
- c. Follows up as needed to expeditiously obtain a revised court order;
- d. Documents efforts to contact/involve the parent(s)/guardian.

Referenced Documents

SC Code of Laws

Revision Comments

