

FNIHB- OR Nursing Policy and Procedure

Section: **Children with Chronic Conditions** Policy Number: **II - 28**
Subject: **Nursing Practice** Issued: **March 31, 2015**
Revised:
Distribution: **All Nursing Facilities**

1. POLICY:

1.1 When a child is diagnosed with a chronic health condition:

- 1.1.1 The NIC shall ensure the child is referred to the Chronic Disease Program for ongoing monitoring and management.
- 1.1.2 An initial appointment will be made with the community physician during their next community visit. Subsequent follow up appointments with the physician shall be arranged as ordered by the physician.

2. PRINCIPLES:

- 2.1 Chronic disease visits provide an opportunity for secondary and tertiary prevention activities.
- 2.2 The community physician or pediatric specialist should assess clients with chronic health conditions at least once a year, even if the child is being routinely followed by a nurse practitioner in the community.

3. DEFINITIONS:

Nurse: Refers to Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and Registered Practical Nurses.

4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 The NIC will be notified of all children diagnosed with a chronic health condition.
- 4.2 Once notified, the NIC (or designate) will:
 - 4.2.1 Assign a nurse to the child's case, under the Chronic Disease Program for ongoing monitoring and management.
 - 4.2.2 Refer the child to the Community Physician and arrange for an appointment to be made with the physician during his/her next community visit.
- 4.3 The designated nurse will arrange and conduct clinic visits with the child, in accordance with current clinical practice guidelines and physician's orders. Details regarding the chronic disease visit shall be documented in accordance with the FNIHB-OR and CNO documentation standards.

4.4 If the child misses a scheduled chronic disease clinic visit, then the nurse shall follow up with the child / family as directed in the FNIHB-OR Policy: *Missed or Cancelled Appointments*.

4.5 The child should be assessed at least once a year by the community physician. The frequency for scheduling follow up physician appointments beyond the initial visit should be discussed with the physician.

4.6 Consider referral to other community agencies in the support of ongoing education for the child and family and for ongoing monitoring of the child's health. For example, referral to the home care program.

5. RELATED POLICIES:

FNIHB-OR Policy: Missed or Cancelled Appointments

FNIHB-OR Policy: Documentation Standards

FNIHB Program Standards

6. REFERENCES:

CNO Documentation Standards

Approved by:		Effective Date: March 31, 2015
Director of Nursing, Ontario Region	Date:	
Regional Executive, Ontario Region	Date	