

PROTOCOL FOR GENITAL ASSESSMENT/INTERVENTION AT SCHOOL

PROTOCOL FOR GENITAL INJURY AT SCHOOL Adapted from the Virginia Department of Health's [First Aid Guide for Child Care and School Emergencies](#)

Please note: The comfort of the student and the examiner are paramount. This protocol is for the use of school nurses. Unlicensed personnel should not examine the genital area unless the personnel notice an injury as part of diapering or toileting assistance. Parents should be contacted and offered the opportunity to come and examine their child or talk to them on the telephone following an injury of this nature.

SCROTAL OR PENILE INJURY

Signs and Symptoms

- Bleeding
- Redness
- Swelling
- Pain
- Bloody urine

Evaluation/plan of Care or Intervention

- 1) Wear gloves. Use Standard Precautions.
- 2) Determine cause of injury.
- 3) If you do not suspect the matter is an emergency, contact parent for permission before examining the genital area.
- 4) Have another adult present when examining the genital area unless it may be an emergency and another adult is not available.
- 5) Apply ice or cold pack as tolerated for 10 to 15 minutes. Do Not apply ice directly to skin.
- 6) Contact parent/guardian and recommend contact with healthcare provider via telephone or office visit.
- 7) If scrotal swelling present, refer for physician evaluation immediately.
- 8) Document and follow-up the next day.

VAGINAL INJURY

Signs and Symptoms

- Bleeding
- Redness
- Pain
- Swelling

Treatment

- 1) Wear gloves. Use Standard Precautions.
- 2) Determine cause of injury.

- 3) If you do not suspect the matter is an emergency, contact parent for permission before examining the genital area.
- 4) Have another adult present when examining the genital area unless it may be an emergency and another adult is not available.
- 5) If bleeding, determine if source is external trauma or internal from menstruation.
- 6) Apply sanitary napkin and direct pressure, if external bleeding. If bleeding does not stop in a few minutes, activate EMS. Apply ice if appropriate, but not directly to the skin.
- 7) Maintain individual in a reclining position with knees elevated or bent and legs together.
- 8) Contact parent/guardian and recommend contact with healthcare provider via telephone or office visit.
- 9) Advise immediate evaluation by health care provider for persistent pain, bleeding from the vagina that is not related to menstruation, pain or trouble passing urine, or blood in urine.
- 10) Document and follow-up the next day.

Note: If sexual abuse is suspected and there is no sign of an injury requiring immediate treatment, do not examine or end examination and call [Albemarle County Social Services Child Protection Services](#) at: 434-972-4010. See ACPS policy [JHG-R](#).

PROTOCOL FOR GENITAL EXAMINATION AT SCHOOL

If a student complains of symptoms in the genital region that do not seem to be related to an injury:

- 1) Ask the student to describe the complaint and its history. If abuse is suspected, do not over-question the child, but refer to CPS, school administrator and/or law enforcement.
- 2) Call the parent to report the complaint and ask if the parent grants permission to examine the area or if the parent would like to come to school to examine the area or speak to the child. If parent declines, document and allow the student to return to class, if able.
- 3) If parent requests or grants permission, have another adult staff member present.
- 4) Explain to student what you are going to do and that nobody can look or touch the genital region (in a term the student understands such as “private part”) without their parent’s permission.
- 5) If treatment is warranted, have the student self-apply if able to do so, seek parent permission if not.
- 6) If the complaint seems to be related to sexual and [reproductive health](#), do not perform an examination but [refer student to healthcare provider](#) if student is pubescent or postpubescent. Contact school administrator and CPS if student is prepubescent. If sexual abuse is suspected, do not perform an examination, but refer the matter to CPS and school administrator immediately. See policy [JHG-R](#).
- 7) If rape or sexual assault is reported, contact administrator and CPS. Determine who will notify law enforcement officials. You may need to send the student to the University of Virginia Emergency Room for a forensic evaluation. If parent cannot take the student to the ER or is the suspected assaulter, have a school administrator, social worker or school counselor bring or go with the student to the emergency room. Do not perform an examination, and do not try to get more information about the assault or abuse. That is the responsibility of CPS and/or law enforcement.

Providing Toileting Assistance

- 1) Whenever possible, students should be encouraged to be as independent as possible.
- 2) If a student needs assistance, school personnel can provide instructions for self-care in a step-by-step manner.
- 3) If the student is unable to perform self-care, school personnel shall seek a second adult to be present when the toileting assistance or cleaning is provided.
- 4) Notify parent.
- 5) Document in student record or as part of classroom management document (i.e. in a SPED or preschool classroom).
- 6) Toileting accidents happen. They may also be a symptom of a larger health issue. Maintain good communication with parents and teachers to help determine if this is related to a stressful situation or if referral to a healthcare provider is needed. Provide toileting resources as requested to parent or guardian.
- 7) Toileting assistance in the preschool or SPED classroom may vary depending on the needs of the student and the availability of staff.