

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20447

TO:

DUCS-funded Facility Administrators

DUCS-funded Facility Medical Coordinators

DUCS Staff

FROM:

David Siegel

Acting Director, ORR

RE:

Immunizations and Pregnancy Testing

DATE:

April 2, 2008

This guidance memo clarifies Section 3.04 in the DUCS Policy and Procedures Draft Manual, "Medical Services," concerning pregnancy testing. The current policy states that all females 10 years or older must undergo pregnancy testing within 48 hours of admission to a DUCS-funded facility before they are administered vaccinations.

Please note that when undergoing their required medical screening within 48 hours of admission to a DUCS-funded facility, medical providers should inform the UAC of the potential risks associated with having certain immunizations if they are pregnant, and administer a quantitative blood pregnancy test for all UAC females over the age of 10, with consent of the UAC. Only after test results are negative should the appropriate vaccinations be administered to the UAC.

Please ensure that your medical providers are aware of this new directive. If you have any questions regarding these instructions, please call the DUCS Director, Maureen Dunn, at 202-401-5523. Thank you.