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June 4, 2012

TO: CHDP Providers

FROM: Joseph Duke, M.D., Director
Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

SUBJECT: **CHDP PROVIDER UPDATE # 03:12**

I. Notice: Electronic Provider Update Procedure

In early 2012, the Los Angeles County CHDP Program began transitioning to an electronic provider update procedure; the new procedure has been successfully tested over the past several months. This issue of the CHDP Provider Update will be the last printed document; future provider updates will be available by electronic distribution only. Los Angeles County CHDP Provider Updates and state-generated Provider Information Notices (PIN) are now available under the heading, "Provider Updates", which is listed on the local CHDP website (www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/cms/CHDP.htm)

Providers can continue to enter and submit site-specific electronic contact information on a form which can be accessed through a hyperlink on the local CHDP website. To access the form, go to: www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/cms/CHDP.htm , then click on the underlined link "site" under the title "What's New" in the center column of the website page. After completing the form, click on "submit" at the bottom of the form.

II. Reminder: Audiometric Screening Training (AST) Recertification Procedure

Children's Medical Services (CMS) State Branch requires all CHDP providers who are trained in the Play Audiometry method for the hearing screenings to renew certification every four years. All provider staff who conduct CHDP hearing screenings must renew CHDP-approved certification.

CHDP provider staff trained in 2008 will be contacted by CHDP Health Educators in the next two months to register for training dates (tentatively scheduled for July to September 2012). CHDP provider staff can also enroll in recertification training by printing, completing, and faxing the registration form on the CHDP website under "CHDP Provider Trainings" at: www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/cms/CHDP.htm

III. Notice: New School Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Policy

Effective July 1, 2012, the Los Angeles County (LAC) Department of Public Health (DPH) will discontinue the universal TB testing requirement for children entering kindergarten or a California school for the first time. Instead, universal TB screening and risk-based testing will be incorporated into the existing California State physical examination requirement for children entering first grade. Health providers, as part of this routine health assessment, will screen students and test them for TB only if a risk factor is present. This screening policy has been updated to promote evidence-based best practices, as advocated by numerous agencies. For additional information, including a screening questionnaire, please review the information provided by the LAC Tuberculosis Control Program at <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/tb/index.htm> (Please note that the policy change will not affect pre-school children, teachers or volunteers.)

This policy change from universal TB testing to universal TB screening with targeted testing correlates with CHDP Health Assessment Guideline (HAG) section 73, which was revised and distributed to CHDP providers in CHDP Program Information Notice No.: 10-05. Section 73 includes two tables; one table provides assistance in the interpretation of tuberculin skin test results and the other table contains a pediatric tuberculosis risk assessment questionnaire. In preparation for this change, CHDP providers should review HAG section 73; in addition, CHDP providers should prepare to add the tuberculosis screening questionnaire found on the LAC Tuberculosis Control Program website to CHDP medical charts.

State law specifies that the "Report of Health Examination for School Entry" form (PM171A) must be used as a record of tests or evaluations completed at the time of the health examination. Unless instructed otherwise by local authorities, CHDP providers may add the word "screening" to the "Tuberculin Test" line with a date of the screening; if a tuberculin test was performed instead, CHDP providers enter the test date and omit the word "screening."

Please share the information in this Provider Update with your staff. Provider information notices are available on the website at <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp>. If you have any questions about this provider update, please contact your Regional Office.