



Texas Department of  
Family and Protective Services

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# **CPS Medical & Behavioral Health Services**

*Liz Kromrei, CPS Director of Services*

*Roberto Rodriguez, CPS Medical Director*

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## New(ish) CPS Medical Director

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- Roberto Rodríguez, MD, MPH
  - Native Texan, originally from McAllen, grew up in Central Texas and San Antonio
  - Primary care pediatrician who has served predominantly Medicaid populations
  - Medical Director experience at STAR Health, DSHS, and The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
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## What does the Medical Director do?

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- Broadly, works with staff and stakeholders to develop and implement policies related to health and well-being of children in conservatorship
  - Resource for medical services staff to address needs of children with complex medical conditions
  - Liaison with HHSC and STAR Health program, as well as health care providers
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## Why does CPS need a Medical Director?

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- AAP has clearly defined children in foster care as children with special health care needs
  - Very high prevalence of physical, mental, developmental, educational, and dental health problems
  - Risk factors include: trauma, medical neglect, and stress that exacerbates chronic disease
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- There are two statewide teams that support the regional staff as they work to meet needs of children in DFPS care:
    - Medical Services (Sherry Rumsey, LPC-S)
      - RN Nurse Consultants
      - Well-being Specialists
      - Program Specialists
    - Substance Abuse/Behavioral Health Services(new)
      - Substance Abuse Specialists
      - BH Specialists (CANS, Behavioral Health)
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# Medical Services Initiatives & Success Stories

STAR Health is a statewide, comprehensive healthcare system that provides a full-range of Medicaid covered medical and behavioral health services to children in DFPS conservatorship and young adults in DFPS paid placements. STAR Health was created in 2008 and is currently administered through Superior HealthPlan Network.

STAR Health includes a “medical home” for each child, meaning a doctor [Primary Care Provider or Team] to oversee care, and a “health passport” to make sure health history and information is readily accessible.

**STAR Health services include:**

- Physical and behavioral healthcare;
  - Dental services;
  - Vision services;
  - Service coordination;
  - Clinical service management and disease management;
  - Health Passport;
  - Help-lines for consumers and healthcare providers; and
  - Physical, occupational, speech, and other health-related services.
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# 3 IN 30

## A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO BETTER CARE FOR CHILDREN



**3-Day  
Initial Medical Exam**

In 3 business days, children entering DFPS care must see a doctor to be checked for injuries or illnesses and get any treatments they need.



**CANS  
Assessment**

In 30 days, children (3 or older) must get a CANS assessment. The CANS is a comprehensive trauma-informed behavioral health evaluation. It gathers information about the strengths and needs of the child and helps in planning services that will help the child and family reach their goals.



**THSteps  
Medical Check-Up**

In 30 days, children must see a doctor for a complete check-up with lab work.

This makes sure:

- We address medical issues early.
- Kids are growing and developing as expected.
- Caregivers know how to support strong growth and development.





## New: 3-Day Medical Exam

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- All youth entering foster care will receive the 3-day medical exam (unless they have to receive emergency/urgent medical care).
  - The 3-day medical exam is an *additional* exam and does not replace the Texas Health Steps (THSteps) medical checkup.
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# What is the 3-Day Exam?

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- It is a medical screening for each child within 3 business days of the removal.
- Children and youth **MAY NOT** receive vaccinations at the 3-day exam *unless* the medical professional determines that a tetanus vaccination is necessary or consent is directly obtained from the parents.



# How's implementation going??

Date	4/2018	5/2018	6/2018	7/2018	8/2018	9/2018	10/2018
<b>Removals</b>	435	510	768	758	1388	1269	1733
<b>3 Day Exam Done</b>	26.2%	36.7%	34.1%	50.8%	64.7%	65.8%	72.3%
<b>3 Day Exam Done Timely</b>	19.3%	32.4%	31%	42.6%	54.8%	59.1%	65.1%
<b>Coverage of the state</b>	Regions 1,7,9, and 10 or approx. 25%		Regions 1,2, 3E, 3W, 7,9, and 10 or approx. 50%		Regions 1, 2, 3E, 3W, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, 7, 9, and 10 or approx. 75%		All Regions

- The removal worker immediately obtains emergency care if needed (instead of the 3-Day Medical Exam).
- The removal worker arranges for 3 day medical exam appointment by scheduling or ensuring an appointment and making sure there is transportation.
- Upon completion of the medical exam, recommended follow up is done (including scheduling CANS and THSteps).

## Who conducts the 3-Day Exam?

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A Physician (MD or DO) or other Health Care Provider (HCP) may complete the initial 3-day medical exam.

To locate a provider, See STAR Health:

<https://www.fostercaretx.com/for-members/find-a-doctor.html>

or **Call STAR Health Member Services**

for assistance finding a provider:

**1-866-912-6283**

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## Required Paperwork for 3-Day Exam

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The removal worker should provide the adult who will be attending and transporting for the 3-day exam with:

1. A fully signed and authorized **Medical Consent Form 2085-B**, and
2. Information about why the child was removed. This could be an affidavit (if releasable, appropriate), affidavit excerpt, completely filled out 2279, or something tailor made.

# How does 3 in 30 help with service planning?

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- 3 in 30 promotes communication between CPS, STAR Health, caregivers, medical and behavioral health providers.
- Using Health Passport, caseworkers use 3 in 30 information for informing the court, service planning, permanency conferences, and placement changes.



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**THANK YOU!!!**

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