

Topic 6: Payment for Medical Examinations or Services

Link to [CPS Assessment Procedure](#)

When necessary, special provisions exist for payment for:

- ◆ Photographs and x-rays
- ◆ Physical examinations or tests
- ◆ Sexual abuse examinations
- ◆ Mental health examinations
- ◆ Interpretive services
- ◆ Ongoing services for crime victims

Photographs, X-Rays, Physical Examinations, or Medical Tests

Mandatory reporters may take or arrange for photographs of injuries at public expense. Health practitioners may perform medically indicated examinations or tests at public expense if necessary for the completion of a child abuse assessment.

Attempt to cover costs related to x-rays or other medical examinations or test through Medicaid or other health insurance when available.

The Department will pay for drug testing of a child when:

- ◆ A health practitioner performed the test **before** or **during** a child abuse assessment because the practitioner determined that it was medically indicated.
- ◆ The test was performed **during** the assessment at the request of the Department.

The Department will pay for drug testing of the person alleged responsible for abuse when the test was performed **during** the assessment of an allegation of:

- ◆ Denial of critical care for failure to provide proper supervision, or
- ◆ Presence of illegal drugs in a child, or
- ◆ Manufacturing a dangerous substance or possession of a dangerous substance with the intent to manufacture.

Payment may also be made when:

- ◆ The drug test is scheduled before the conclusion of the assessment but cannot be administered before the completion of the assessment and the worker documents in the written report that an Addendum will be submitted that addresses the result of the drug test; or
- ◆ There is documentation in the written report that the worker requested or attempted to have the drug test done before completing the assessment but the test was performed after the conclusion of the assessment.

To obtain reimbursement for the cost of photographs and X-rays or other physical examinations or tests, the claimant must submit:

- ◆ An original invoice (required for payment of most services).
- ◆ Form [General Accounting Expenditure \(GAX\)](#) completed for each child.
- ◆ A cover letter directed to the DHS Division of Child and Family Services that contains:
 - The child's name, age, and address.
 - The name of the worker or unit to whom the photographs, x-rays, examinations, or tests were provided.
 - The date the photographs, x-rays, examinations, or tests were done.
 - A statement agreeing to retain the photographs, x-rays, examinations, or test results for five years or to agree to provide them to the Department for retention.

The claimant submits two copies of these documents to the Central Abuse Registry, DHS Division of Child and Family Services, 1305 E Walnut Street, 5th Floor, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0114. See [17-Appendix](#) for more detailed instructions on preparing the GAX.

Examinations for Sexual Abuse

Direct those conducting medical examinations to assess a report of sexual abuse to seek payment from the Iowa Crime Victim Assistance Program by submitting a claim within 45 days to:

Crime Victim Assistance Program, Compensation Program,
Lucas Bldg. Ground Fl.,
321 E. 12th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319

Ongoing Services for Crime Victims

Refer the family to local law enforcement authorities for information about accessing treatment funds from the Crime Victim Assistance Program.

When asked to pay for services related to a child abuse assessment, the Crime Victims Assistance Program will request verification that the child was a victim of child abuse and verification of services.

Information about the Crime Victim Assistance Program is also available by phone at (515) 281-5044 or 1-800-373-5044.

Mental Health Examinations

When securing funds for a court-ordered mental health examination of a child to complete a child abuse assessment:

- ◆ Consult with your supervisor.
- ◆ Contact the local juvenile court administrator for assistance in securing funds.

Payment for Interpretive Services

Try to secure free interpretive services for interviews when possible. When necessary, you may use personal service contracts for interpretive services for interviews with non-English speaking clients. Follow locally established procedures for using this contract and for securing services for interviewing deaf clients.