


**COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
POLICY # CL-1001
INFORMED CONSENT FOR VACCINATION POLICY**

Approval:		11-22-21
	District Health Director	Date



1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to designate who is eligible to sign consent for vaccination.

2.0 AUTHORITY

The County Board of Health (CBOH) Informed Consent for Vaccinating Minors Policy is published under the authority of CBOH and in compliance with the following:

- 2.1 Persons Authorized to Consent to Surgical or Medical Treatment (GA Code Title 31. Health § 31-9-2)
- 2.2 Requirements of Valid Consent (GA Code Title 31. Health § 31-9-6)
- 2.3 Definitions (Georgia Code Title 49. Social Services § 49-5-3)
- 2.4 Georgia Immunization Program Manual's Informed Request Policy

3.0 SCOPE

This policy applies to all CBOH employees and must be adhered to by all employees.

4.0 POLICY

- 4.1 It is the policy of the County Board of Health (CBOH), in accordance with the state of Georgia's requirements, that a parent or legal representative must sign an informed consent for vaccination in public health clinics.
- 4.2 In Georgia, the legal definition of a person authorized to make a request for immunization is very broad. The CBOH will utilize the following guide when determining who is authorized to give consent for immunization based on GA Code 31-9-2:
 - 4.2.1 Any adult for himself, whether by living will or otherwise
 - 4.2.2 In the absence or unavailability of a living spouse, any parent, whether an

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adult or a minor, for his minor child

4.2.3 Any married person, whether an adult or a minor, for himself and for his spouse

4.2.4 Any person temporarily standing in loco parentis, whether formally serving or not, for the minor under his care; and any guardian, for his ward

4.2.4.1 Georgia Code defines "in loco parentis" as "a quasi-parental relationship inferred from and implied by the fact that a child or youth has been taken into a family and treated like any other member thereof, unless an express contract exists to the contrary" (GA Code 49-5-3).

4.2.5 Any female, regardless of age or marital status, for herself when given in connection with pregnancy, or the prevention thereof, or childbirth

4.2.6 Upon the inability of any adult to consent for himself and in the absence of any person to consent under paragraphs 4.2.2 through 4.2.5 of this subsection, the following persons in the following order of priority:

4.2.6.1 Any adult child for his parents

4.2.6.2 Any parent for his adult child

4.2.6.3 Any adult for his brother or sister

4.2.6.4 Any grandparent for his grandchild

4.3 The CBOH will also adhere to GA Code 31-9-6:

4.3.1.1 Relationships "shall include the adoptive, foster, and step relations as well as blood relations and the relationship by common-law marriage as well as ceremonial marriage."

4.3.1.2 A consent by one person authorized and empowered to consent to surgical or medical treatment shall be sufficient.

4.3.1.3 Any person acting in good faith shall be justified in relying on the representations of any person purporting to give consent, including, but not limited to, his identity, his age, his marital status, his emancipation, and his relationship to any other person for whom the consent is purportedly given.

4.3.1.4 A consent to surgical or medical treatment which discloses in general terms the treatment or course of treatment in connection with which it is given and which is duly evidenced in writing and signed by the patient or other person or persons authorized to consent pursuant to the terms of this chapter

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shall be conclusively presumed to be a valid consent in the absence of fraudulent misrepresentations of material facts in obtaining the same.

- 4.4** If a nurse, based on clinical judgement, suspects that a person is purporting a false relationship with a minor, it is within the rights of that nurse to ask for proof or documentation of the relationship. If the nurse suspects that the minor is in any danger, the nurse must follow the district policy on mandated reporting.

REVISION HISTORY

REVISION #	REVISION DATE	REVISION COMMENTS
0	11/10/2021	Effective Date

RELATED FORMS

None