

## Where do you find information on national resources?

### **Health and Safety Topics--**

#### **The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education**

University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences  
Center at Fitzsimons  
Campus Mail Stop F541, PO Box 6508  
Aurora, CO 80045-0508

Phone: 1-800-598-5437

Website: <http://nrc.uchsc.edu>

### **Training for CCHC Trainers--**

#### **National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants**

Department of Maternal and Child Health  
116-A S. Merritt Mill Road, Campus Box 8126  
The University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8126

Phone: 919-966-3780

E-mail: [nticchc@unc.edu](mailto:nticchc@unc.edu)

Website: [www.sph.unc.edu/courses/childcare](http://www.sph.unc.edu/courses/childcare)

### **Pediatrician Involvement in Child Care Programs--**

#### **American Academy of Pediatrics**

141 Northwest Point Blvd.  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Phone: 1-888-227-5409

E-mail: [childcare@aap.org](mailto:childcare@aap.org)

Website: [www.healthychildcare.org](http://www.healthychildcare.org)

### **Upcoming National CCHC Registry & State Support for CCHCs--**

#### **Healthy Child Care Consultant Network Support Center (NSC)**

The NSC plans to launch a National CCHC Registry in summer 2006

If you are east of the Mississippi, contact Patricia Fahey at [nsc@edu.org](mailto:nsc@edu.org).

If you are west of the Mississippi, contact Malia Ramler at [mramler@jba-cht.com](mailto:mramler@jba-cht.com).

## How do you find a Child Care Health Consultant?

Because states use a variety of methods to support and deploy CCHCs, the pathway for locating a CCHC varies from state to state. For example, in some states, CCHCs are housed in local Departments of Public Health. In other states, CCHCs are private consultants who market their services for a fee; and in still others, pediatricians provide child care health consulting services. You may want to begin your search for a CCHC by contacting your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R), your local Department of Public Health, or the American Academy of Pediatrics headquarters office or state chapter contact.

*Choosing a child care health consultant and working together can help achieve the goal of providing a safe, healthy, and developmentally appropriate environment for our nation's young children.*



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## Child Care Health Consultants & You: Working Together for Safe & Healthy Children

prepared by  
The National Training Institute  
for Child Care Health Consultants



- **What is a Child Care Health Consultant?**
- **Who can be a Child Care Health Consultant?**
- **What is a Child Care Health Consultant Trainer?**
- **What knowledge should a Child Care Health Consultant have?**
- **What are the benefits of having a Child Care Health Consultant involved in your child care program?**
- **Where do you find information on national resources?**
- **How do you find a Child Care Health Consultant?**

## What is a Child Care Health Consultant?

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A child care health consultant (CCHC) is a health professional who has an interest in and experience with children, has knowledge of resources and regulations and is comfortable linking health resources with facilities that provide primarily education and social services.\*

## Who can be a Child Care Health Consultant?

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Child care health consultants include professionals such as nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physicians, health educators, dental hygienists, sanitarians, and medical social workers who have:

- knowledge and experience in health and safety practices in child care, and
- received CCHC training.

It is important to follow state regulations which may determine who can be a child care health consultant and whether or not your program is required to have one.

## What is a Child Care Health Consultant *Trainer*?

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The National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants (NTI) is the national resource for training state and regional-level public health and early childhood education professionals to coordinate and train CCHCs in their community. In turn, these child care health consultants directly serve child care facilities.



## What knowledge should a Child Care Health Consultant have?

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Professionals interested in consulting with child care programs need basic training and ongoing professional development. The knowledge base of the CCHC (personally or by involving other health professionals) should include:

- National health & safety standards for out-of-home care;
- How child care facilities conduct their day-to-day operations;
- Child care licensing requirements;
- Disease reporting requirements;
- Immunizations for children;
- Immunizations for child care providers;
- Injury prevention for children;
- Staff health, including occupational health risks for child care providers;
- Oral health for children;
- Nutrition for children;
- Inclusion of children with special health needs in child care;
- Recognition & reporting requirements for child abuse & neglect;
- Community health & mental health resources.\*

In addition to these basic topics, CCHCs should also be aware of emerging trends and new recommendations (e.g., reducing the risk of SIDS in child care).

## What are the benefits of having a Child Care Health Consultant involved in your child care program?

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A CCHC can help improve the health and safety of children in your care by:

- Teaching child care providers about health & safety issues;
- Teaching parents/guardians about health & safety issues;
- Assessing the needs of child care providers & parents/guardians for health & safety training;
- Meeting on-site with child care providers about health & safety;
- Providing telephone advice to child care providers about health & safety;
- Providing referrals to community services;
- Developing or updating policies & procedures for child care facilities;
- Reviewing health records of children & child care providers;
- Helping to manage the care of children with special health care needs;
- Consulting with a child's health professional about medication;
- Interpreting standards or regulations & providing technical advice, separate & apart from the enforcement role of a regulation inspector.\*

\* Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2002.

