

ROLE OF NURSES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (SPED)



OSHNA Conference
March 29-31, 2018
Leona-Marie Ebler, M.Ed., M.Ed.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest pertaining to this presentation, materials, and/or content

OBJECTIVES

PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- Gain a basic understanding of of Special Education and Section 504 laws
- Gain an understanding IDEA's Eligibility Categories
- Be able to identify the role of nurses in special education
- Be able to provide valuable information in a Medical File Review
- Gain an understanding of Basic Developmental Milestones Birth to Three



INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)



- Is a federal law binding in all states/territories to protect the civil rights of children with disabilities in public education. Individual state mandates.
- Addresses the need for specialized instruction for identified students ages 3-21 (IEP), birth-2 (IFSP). Must have a recognized disability AND it must adversely impact their education.
- Provides individual entitlements under six main principles

IDEA ENSURES STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES HAVE...

- ◉ Access to Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- ◉ An appropriate evaluation
- ◉ An Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- ◉ Access to the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)
- ◉ Participation in decision making
- ◉ Due Process



SECTION 504 OF THE AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

- ◉ Guarantees that a child with a disability has equal **ACCESS** to an education and that is comparable to an education provided to those who do not have a disability.
- ◉ Provides building accessibility, classroom accommodations and curriculum modifications.
- ◉ Students who have a **normal ability to learn academically** but have a medical condition, behavioral problems, or a mobility impairment can qualify for services under Section 504 only **IF** the disability is shown to substantially limit his or hers educational performance.

13 CATEGORIES OF ELIGIBILITY UNDER IDEA

- ◉ Autism
- ◉ Blindness
- ◉ Deafness
- ◉ Emotional Disturbance
- ◉ Hearing Impairment
- ◉ Intellectual Disability
- ◉ Multiple Disabilities
- ◉ Orthopedic Impairment
- ◉ Other Health Impaired
- ◉ Specific Learning Disability
- ◉ Speech or Language Impairment
- ◉ Traumatic Brain Injury
- ◉ Visual Impairment

OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRED (OHI)

To qualify for special education services in the category of other health impairment, the child must have

- ◉ limited strength, vitality or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli,
- ◉ that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that is due to chronic or acute health problems which adversely affects the child's educational, or in the case of a child below age five, a child's developmental performance
- ◉ such as : asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia, Tourette syndrome.



YOUR ROLE AS A NURSE

○ Health Screenings-

- Near and Far Vision
- Hearing Screening

○ Medical File Review-

- Provide medical history
- Provide current medical status
- Family medical history
- Current medications
- Developmental Milestones

- IEP team member and attend IEP meetings as a person under “Others as appropriate” on a case by case basis depending on eligibility category and needs of the student to address medical concerns.

MEDICAL FILE REVIEW/ DODEA FORM 19 SHSM H-10-3

- ◉ Medical history-diagnosis, injuries, hospitalizations, frequent illness (ear infections, tubes, etc)
- ◉ Current medical status- medications, vision/hearing screening, sleeping habits
- ◉ Family History- parents/siblings history of diagnosis, learning problems, speech/language services, etc.
- ◉ Developmental Milestones
- ◉ Parent Concerns
- ◉ Characteristics of social/adaptive behaviors

DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

BIRTH TO 3 YEARS



Language Development

- Say first word: 12-18 months
- Speak sentences: 2-3 years***

Gross Motor Development

- Sit up: 3-6 months
- Crawl: 6-9 months***
- Walk: 12-18 months

Adaptive Development

- Toilet trained: 3-4 years
- Brushes teeth: 3-4 years
- Dresses/undresses: 3-4 years

Cognitive Development:

- Looks at pictures in a book: 9-18 months
- States name and age: 2-3 years
- Can count 1-5: 2-3 years

Q & A



REFERENCES

- ◉ Website: Understanding Special Education
<http://www.understandingspecialeducation.com/IEP-law.html>
- ◉ Website: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Developmental Milestones
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/index.html>
- ◉ PDF developmental checklist for parents
https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/pdf/checklists/all_checklists.pdf