

# **PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING**

## **County of Orange Health Care Agency**

**The Public Health Nursing Division of the Health Care Agency of Orange County applies public health and nursing knowledge in the provision of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention and health services to individuals, families and communities.**

**The following practice objectives are of equal importance and are implemented concurrently:**

1. Provide culturally sensitive, comprehensive Public Health Nursing Services to facilitate the development of healthy families as building blocks to a thriving community, utilizing:
  - Assessment
  - Advocacy
  - Education
  - Empowerment
  - Linkages
  - Case management
2. Prepare for and respond to community needs and threats related to communicable disease, bioterrorism, disasters and environmental health concerns.
3. Collaborate with community partners to identify and address public health needs of at-risk populations in Orange County. Participate and support planned community health activities with Family Resources Centers, acute care providers, shelters, and other community partners.

**The Public Health Nursing Division of the Health Care Agency of Orange County has two sections, Public Health Community Nursing and Specialized Public Health Nursing.**

*Visit our website at [www.ochealthinfo.com/public/nursing.htm](http://www.ochealthinfo.com/public/nursing.htm)*

**NOTE: Notify Child Abuse Registry for issues of medical neglect - (800) 940-1000**

# **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY NURSING**

**County of Orange Health Care Agency**  
1725 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St., Santa Ana, CA 92706, Building 50  
(714) 834-7747

**The Public Health Community Nursing** provides for public health nursing services in the home and community. Public health nurses work with individuals, families and community groups to promote health and to provide for referral to appropriate services based on identified needs. In providing in-home nursing services to facilitate the development of healthy families, Public Health Community Nursing works together with community health care providers to identify at risk populations in need of public health nursing services. All appropriate referrals are accepted and prioritized for response. Response time is dependent on available resources. The following are priority referral populations:

## **Prenatal**

Women who are in need of assistance to optimize their pregnancy and parenting outcomes because of serious psychosocial and health complications and poor prenatal care compliance. Examples would include women affected by severe depression or physical abuse. Response time is usually 2- 10 working days.

## **Newborns**

Newborns with major health or safety issues such as serious feeding problems, failure-to-thrive, low birth weight, prematurity, congenital anomalies, or drug withdrawal. Response time is usually 2-10 working days.

## **Post-Partum**

Women who are in need of assistance because of serious psychosocial and health issues affecting their post-partum recovery and contributing to breastfeeding or bonding problems. Examples include women with post-partum depression or a history of child abuse or neglect. Response time is usually 2-10 working days.

## **Children/Teens**

Minors with inadequate family management of serious major health issues such as asthma, diabetes, obesity, pregnancy and failure to thrive. Response time is usually 7-14 working days.

*To fax a referral or to discuss a potential referral with a  
Supervising Public Health Nurse, please see the attached Service Areas list.*

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Public Health Community Nursing has programs that serve specialized populations. All appropriate referrals and requests are accepted and prioritized for response.

## **The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)**

**(714) 834-8218**

The Nurse-Family Partnership offers comprehensive nursing case management services to pregnant and parenting teens. The NFP public health nurses provide services to low income, first-time teen parents from the prenatal period through the child's second birthday. Program activities assist the teens to prepare for the arrival of their child and the responsibilities of parenting resulting in healthier pregnancies, babies, and families. Data from the activities of this program is provided to the National Center for Children, Families & Communities in Denver, Colorado. **Call for information or to make a referral.**

## **The Medically High Risk Newborn Program (MHRN)**

**(714) 834-8207**

The Medically High Risk Newborn Program provides comprehensive nursing case management services to medically fragile infants until they are 24 months of age. Funded through a grant from the Orange County Children and Families Commission, the program provides continuing growth and development assessment, parental education and assistance in accessing necessary health services for high-risk infants. **Call for information or to make a referral.**

## **ProjectConnections.FRC Health Access Program**

**(714) 834-8207**

The ProjectConnections.FRC Health Access Program provides for consultation, referral and in-home nursing assessments and case management to families referred through Family Resource Centers located throughout Orange County. Funded through a grant from the Orange County Children and Families Commission, the goal of the program is to link families to a health care home. **Call for information or to make a referral.**

## **Communicable Disease Investigation**

**(714) 834-7747**

The Public Health Community Nursing Program investigates selected reportable communicable diseases and case findings. Public health nurses provide case management of persons who require laboratory testing in sensitive occupations and situations. Education regarding the transmission and prevention of communicable diseases and referral follow-up as needed is provided. **Call for information or to make a referral.**