Other Health Impairment (OHI)

Other Health Impairment is an “umbrella” term that includes areas of health that cause a child to have limited strength, vitality, or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment. This impairment is due to a chronic or acute health problem and it adversely affects a child’s education performance.

Characteristics

Other health impairments characteristics are as varied as the conditions a child may suffer from. Impairments may include, but is not limited to:

- ADHD
- Diabetes
- Epilepsy
- Heart conditions
- Hemophilia
- Lead poisoning
- Leukemia
- Nephritis
- Rheumatic fever
- Sickle cell anemia
- Tourette syndrome

Tips for Parents

- Learn about your child’s Other Health Impairment. The more you know, the more you can help yourself and your child.
- Work with the medical team to understand your child’s health impairment. Don’t be shy about asking questions. Tell them what you know or think. Make suggestions.
- Keep track of your child’s treatment. A 3-ring binder or a box can help you store this history. As your child recovers, you may meet with many doctors, nurses, and others. Write down what they say. Put any paperwork they give you in the notebook or throw it in the box. You can’t remember all this! Also, if you need to share any of this paperwork with someone else, make a copy. Don’t give away your original!

Resources

ADHD [http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/adhd/](http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/adhd/)


Epilepsy [http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/epilepsy/](http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/epilepsy/)

Heart Conditions [http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/ohi-heartconditions/](http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/ohi-heartconditions/)
