OCFP

Office of Child and Family Policy

Department of Children and Family Services

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washing Sinks

Approved by:

Interpretation

Applicable To: Licensing Standards For Day Care Centers

Policy Citation: 407.340(a)(1): Each area serving children wearing diapers shall have a designated diapering area which includes at least the following:

1) An accessible hand-washing sink within the same room without barriers such as doors. Facilities licensed for infant care on January 1, 1998 have until January 1, 2000 to come into compliance with this requirement.

Question: Are children who wear Apull-up@ training pants considered as diapered

children thus requiring a sink in the room@?

Discussion: The National Health and Safety Performance Standards indicate that a diaper is one that has Aan absorbent inner lining completely contained within another covering made of waterproof material that prevents the escape of feces and urine≅. APull-up≅

training pants meet this description of diaper.

Subsection 407.340(a)(1) requires a diaper changing area and a sink to be present in the same room where children are being diapered. The requirement of having a sink is to facilitate proper hand washing and prevent communicable disease. The same risk of communicable disease is present with children wearing Apull-up≅ training pants. The rule allows facilities licensed as of January 1, 1998 two years to come into compliance with these standards, January 1, 2000.

Response: Children wearing Apull-up@ training pants are considered diapered children and should be changed at the diaper changing area. A sink is required

within that same room.