

441—114.20 (237) Discipline.

114.20(1) *Generally.* The facility shall have written policies regarding methods used for control and discipline of children which shall be available to all staff and to the child's family. Agency staff shall be in control of and responsible for discipline at all times. Discipline shall not include the withholding of basic necessities such as food, clothing, or sleep.

114.20(2) *Corporal punishment prohibited.* The facility shall have a policy that clearly prohibits staff or the children from utilizing corporal punishment as a method of disciplining or correcting children. This policy is to be communicated, in writing, to all staff of the facility.

114.20(3) *Physical restraint.* The use of physical restraint shall be employed only to prevent the child from injury to self, to others, or to property. Physical restraint must be conducted with the child in a standing position whenever possible.

a. No staff person shall use any restraint that obstructs the airway of a child.

b. Prone restraint is prohibited. Staff persons who find themselves involved in the use of a prone restraint when responding to an emergency must take immediate steps to end the prone restraint.

c. If a staff person physically restrains a child who uses sign language or an augmentative mode of communication as the child's primary mode of communication, the child shall be permitted to have the child's hands free of restraint for brief periods unless the staff person determines that such freedom appears likely to result in harm to the child, others, or property.

d. The rationale and authorization for the use of physical restraint and staff action and procedures carried out to protect the child's rights and to ensure safety shall be clearly set forth in the child's record by the responsible staff persons.

114.20(4) *Other restraints.* Only comprehensive residential facilities may use a control room, locked cottages, mechanical restraints or chemical restraint.

114.20(5) *Behavior expectations.* The facility shall make available to the child and the child's parents or guardian written policies regarding the following areas:

a. The general expectation of behavior including the facility's rules and practices.

b. The range of reasonable consequences that may be used to deal with inappropriate behavior.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 237.3.