

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Operations Division
Health Services Section Policy and Procedure #P-E-12

SUBJECT: CONTINUITY OF CARE DURING INCARCERATION

POLICY: The Oregon Department of Corrections will provide appropriate diagnosis and treatment for inmate health care needs inclusive of medical, dental, and mental health needs throughout the inmate's incarceration. Appropriate diagnostic testing and referral to community practitioners is utilized as indicated to enhance health care treatment plans.

REFERENCE: OAR 291-124-0025 - 0050
NCCHC Standard P-E-12

PROCEDURE:

- A. Health care services will be provided that preserve and maintain the health status of the inmate during incarceration.
- B. Health care procedures will be conducted in a clinically appropriate manner by appropriately credentialed personnel in an appropriate setting.
- C. Provider orders for patient care will be noted and implemented by health care staff in a timely manner.
- D. All health care encounters will be documented in the health care record. All appropriately licensed healthcare providers, as a practice group, are responsible for each and every patient assigned to institutions under their care. In the event of a severed patient/provider relationship (e.g. the provider resigns and moves out of state, retires from practice, or passes away) all prescriptions will be reviewed within one year.
- E. Diagnostic tests and outside consults will be reviewed, signed, and dated with date of review by the ordering provider. Changes in the patient's treatment plan based on diagnostic testing and outside consults will be noted in the health care record. Health Service Policy and Procedure P-A-02.1, Level of Therapeutic Care Provided by Oregon Department of Corrections Health Services Section is utilized to guide treatment care planning.
- F. Ongoing continuous quality improvement activities will monitor the quality of the health care delivery system and assure that patient care treatment plans are followed. Please refer to Health Service Policy and Procedure P-A-06, Continuous Quality Improvement Program.

Effective Date: _____

Revision date: April 2007

Supersedes P&P dated: November 2006