

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Operations Division
Health Services Section Policy and Procedure #P-C-06

SUBJECT: INMATE WORKERS

POLICY: Inmate workers may not be used to deliver health care.

REFERENCE: OAR 291-124-015(4)
NCCHC Standard P-C-06

PROCEDURE:

- A. Inmate workers shall not be assigned to provide nursing care.
- B. Inmate workers may be assigned clerical duties in health care areas that do not consist of contact with written health care records, scheduling of services, or other confidential materials. Inmates may not collect or distribute sick call or request for health care forms.
- C. Inmates may be assigned housekeeping or janitorial duties in the health care area if they are under the supervision of staff, after appropriate training; documentation of training will be maintained by the Health Services Manager or designee. Inmates may not be left unattended in any area where medical equipment, supplies, drugs or records are kept. Inmates may not operate any medical equipment. When inmate(s) handle biohazardous waste, they may do so only after receiving training including the use of protective materials and equipment.
- D. Inmate workers may be assigned to assist inmates with routine activities of daily living such as bathing, shaving and ambulation in a regular housing unit.
- E. Inmates may participate in support group activities that assist other inmates with health problems (e.g., a buddy system for potentially suicidal inmates) and hospice programs (see P-G-12, Care for the Terminally Ill). Inmates may not be substituted for regular program or health staff.

Effective Date: _____
Revision date: February 2007
Supersedes P&P dated: January 2006