AUTHORITY:

A. NMSA 1978, Section 33-1-6, as amended.
B. Policy CD-010100.

REFERENCE:

A. Policy CD-173100.
C. NCCHC Standards for Health Services in Prisons, 1997; p. 44 and p. 64.

PURPOSE:

To provide inmates with a medical summary and health care information upon departure from New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) facilities to other corrections sites.

APPLICABILITY:

All employees and inmates of NMCD adult facilities especially Health Services Bureau personnel, contract health care providers and all employees assigned to duties that are related to the provision of health services.

FORMS:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

None

DEFINITIONS:

A. New Mexico Community Corrections Programs (CCP): Special programs for the reintegration of parolees or probationers into a New Mexico community established outside of prison facilities.

B. Out-of-System: Outside of the NMCD facilities, i.e., federal prison system, other states, Forensic Treatment Unit, city and county jails and contract facilities.
POLICY:

A. Medical discharge screening shall be performed for inmates of the New Mexico Corrections Department shall be performed. A copy of the Transfer forms (CD-083000) and release forms found in (CD-171401) appropriate medications or prescriptions, when indicated, will be part of the medical file. The transfer process will be identical to the pre-release requirements for inmates released on parole.

B. For those inmates transferred to non-Departmental facilities, the institution shall notify the local facility medical section of the transfer. A summary of medical or psychological needs shall be prepared by medical or mental health staff and forwarded to the facility receiving the inmate. The transfer documents for release into parole will suffice. A Transfer form shall also be completed by medical staff.

C. For those inmates being released from the system, the institution shall notify the medical section and policy CD-171400 will be followed. Inmates also should be notified at this time that the Department is not financially responsible for medical care of inmates on parole or release status.

D. Inmates shall not be precluded from, or delayed in, beginning participation in a CCP because of medical problems or proposed treatment. This does not apply to a CCP begun while the inmate is still serving the basic sentence.

E. Each CCP will counsel all parolees or probationers as to their financial responsibility for obtaining medical care and apprise inmates of hospitals and clinics that provide care to indigents.

F. Continuity of care will be provided from admission to transfer or discharge from the facility, including referral to community-based providers when indicated. Offender health care records should be reviewed by the facility’s qualified health care professional upon arrival from outside health care entities including those from inside the correctional system. [4-4347]

David Jablonski, Secretary of Corrections
New Mexico Corrections Department