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HEALTH CARE SERVICES DIRECTIVE-ADULT Manual of Policies and Procedures				

Title DISABILITY STATUS CLASSIFICATION ASSIGNMENTS
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Legal References (includes but is not limited to) IC 11-8-2-5 IC 34-4-12.6	Related Policies/Procedures (includes but is not limited to) 01-02-101 01-02-106	Other References (includes but is not limited to) National Correctional Healthcare Standards
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I. PURPOSE:

Each incarcerated adult must be assigned a “Disability Status Code” that accurately reflects their sensory and physical disabilities, if any. This code is used by the Department as part of its Classification system and by individual facilities to identify necessary individual accommodations.

II. GUIDELINES:

A. General Information

The assignment of an appropriate disability status classification helps to ensure that each disabled incarcerated individual has access to appropriate supportive devices or services necessary to ensure equal access to Departmental programs.

For the purposes of this Health Care Services Directive (HCSD), activities of daily living (ADLs) refer to, but are not limited to, an incarcerated individual’s ability to ambulate, eat, eliminate, dress, perform personal hygiene, see, hear, communicate, and socialize.

B. Disability Status Classification Assignment Categories

The following definitions and letter codes shall be used:

1. A - No disability: This category applies to all incarcerated individuals without significant physical, visual, hearing, impairment.
2. B - Incarcerated individuals who are blind or have other

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significant visual impairments: This category applies to those incarcerated individuals who are blind or visually impaired with bilateral vision defects that even with best correction seriously adversely affects the incarcerated individual's ability to participate independently in ADLs.

This category is not used for incarcerated individuals who wear contact lenses or who have functional vision in one eye.

Incarcerated individuals with dual sensory impairment in which there is a disturbance of both vision and hearing which seriously adversely affects an offender's ability to participate in ADLs will also be classified to this category.

3. C - Incarcerated individuals with a mobility or ambulation impairment, including wheelchairs and crutches: This category applies to those incarcerated individuals with a neuromuscular impairment that seriously adversely affects the incarcerated individual's locomotion or gross motor functions. The impairment must be such that it seriously interferes with the incarcerated individual's ability to participate independently in ADLs. Examples include, but are not limited to: paralysis; neuromuscular disorders which impair strength such as myasthenia gravis; or, spastic disorders such as cerebral palsy.
4. D - Incarcerated individuals who are deaf or have other profound hearing loss, or who have certain communication impairment disorders: This category applies to those incarcerated individuals who are deaf or suffer from a profound hearing loss in which there is a bilateral disturbance of hearing that cannot be corrected with amplification and that seriously adversely affects the incarcerated individual's ability to participate independently in ADLs. Incarcerated individuals with a hearing loss corrected with a hearing aid do not belong in this category.

Incarcerated individuals with other communication impairment disorders in which there is a disturbance of articulation, speech, voice, or language which seriously adversely affects the incarcerated individual's ability to participate in ADLs despite maximal therapeutic measures will also be assigned to this category.

C. Identification and Evaluation

The designation of a disability status classification assignment involves the:

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- Determination of the presence of a disability; and,
- Development of a disability needs assessment.

An incarcerated individual's disability status classification and disability needs assessment must be initiated during the reception screening/intake health appraisal process. This assessment shall include a review of the following:

1. An evaluation of the incarcerated individual's ability to perform ADL's. This assessment shall include a brief notation regarding those activities in which the incarcerated individual is independent, requires partial assistance, or requires complete assistance;
2. An evaluation of adaptive behavior (proficiency at sign language, proficiency at personal hygiene and grooming, ability to cut up food, hold glasses or cups, etc.);
3. An evaluation of self-care skills (ability to transfer from the bed to chair, use ambulatory aids, read Braille, familiarity with electronic devices such as TTD, etc.);
4. An evaluation of the need for adaptive material, equipment, devices, or services (the use of augmentation communication system such as gestures, picture/word/sentence communication books or boards, electronic devices such as TTD, braces, wheelchairs, etc.); and,
5. A determination of which agency or staff is responsible for provision of the necessary adaptive material, equipment, device or service.

Once completed, State Form 47163, "Report of Disability Status of Offender," shall be completed in the EMR and State Form 47163 shall be forwarded to the facility's Classification department and Transitional Healthcare Facilitator.

D. Review of the Disability Assessment Plan

The disability assessment plan shall be reviewed minimally at the following times:

1. When the presence of a disability is established or changed;

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2. When an incarcerated individual is received after an inter-facility transfer;
3. Annually as part of the annual screening process; and,
4. When discharge from confinement is planned disability codes will be reviewed and required referrals to appropriate State and community resources shall be completed.

E. Documentation

The disability determination and assessment plan shall be documented in the EMR and on State Form 47163. The written findings of the disability needs assessment must be noted in the comment section.

State Form 47163 form is to be forwarded to the facility's Classification department and Transitional Healthcare. The incarcerated individual's disability status classification assignment is used in conjunction with the physical health status classification assignment to determine facility placement.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This Health Care Services Directive is applicable to all facilities housing incarcerated adults.

signature on file

Kristen Dauss, MD
Chief Medical Officer

Date