

	State of Indiana Indiana Department of Correction	Effective Date 4/1/2022	Page 1 of 2	Number 2.20A
HEALTH CARE SERVICES DIRECTIVE-ADULT Manual of Policies and Procedures				

Title COMMUNICATION REGARDING SPECIAL NEEDS PATIENTS
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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:

This Health Care Services Directive (HCSD) requires that Health Services personnel assist operations personnel in managing prison facilities by providing, when necessary, health information regarding incarcerated individuals with special needs.

II. GUIDELINES:

- A. Personal health information (PHI) is confidential and must not be released to those not authorized to receive it. Within the Department, all health information will be released according to HIPAA guidelines. Department
- B Health Services personnel identify for Classification staff general patient needs by providing Medical, Behavioral Health, and Disability Status Codes. This general information must be maintained, as it guides incarcerated individuals placement throughout the Department. Additional specific information is often necessary when the following are considered:

- ◆ Housing assignments
- ◆ Work assignments
- ◆ Program assignments
- ◆ Disciplinary measures
- ◆ Admission to and transfer from facilities.

This is especially true for the following identified groups:

- ◆ Those with serious chronic illness
- ◆ Those with serious communicable disease
- ◆ Those with physical disabilities causing significant problems with performance of activities of daily living (ADLs)
- ◆ Those with serious behavioral health needs
- ◆ Those with severe developmental disabilities
- ◆ Those with serious cognitive impairment

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- ◆ Those who are terminally ill
- ◆ Those who, because of age or frailty, have significantly decreased ability to carry out ADLs
- ◆ Those who are pregnant

When specific activity limitation is necessary, this shall be communicated to the managers involved, in writing and/or verbally as appropriate. Facilities may create individual methodologies to carry out this requirement. No patient may be isolated based on the above needs.

- C Special mention of disciplinary proceedings and restrictive status housing placement must be made. Health Services staff with physical health or behavioral health knowledge relevant to a disciplinary conduct received by a patient should communicate this to those who are implementing / reviewing such conduct. Prior to screening for a conduct violation, behavioral health staff should be contacted by the screening officer and asked to provide feedback about whether the patient's behavioral health condition may have contributed to the conduct violation. If it is determined that the event in question was the result of the patient's behavioral health condition, the patient will receive a written reprimand documenting the behavior but will not receive other discipline per Policy and Administrative Procedure 02-04-101, "Disciplinary Code for Adult Offenders."

Placement in restrictive status housing carries with it certain risks. To ensure that those placed in restrictive status housing do not deteriorate during such placement, special attention must be paid to those going into or remaining in restrictive status housing. This is detailed more fully in HCSD 2.21 , "Health Evaluation of Incarcerated Individuals in Restrictive Status Housing."

III. APPLICABILITY:

This HCSD is applicable to all facilities providing Health Services to incarcerated adults.

signature on file

Kristen Dauss, MD
Chief Medical Officer

Date