

	State of Indiana Indiana Department of Correction	Effective Date 4/1/2022	Page 1 of 2	Number 3.12A
HEALTH CARE SERVICES DIRECTIVE-ADULT Manual of Policies and Procedures				

Title ASSISTIVE DEVICES

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
--	--	--

I. PURPOSE:

This Health Care Services Directive (HCSD) describes the circumstances in which the Health Services Division provides assistive devices.

II. GUIDELINES:

- A. Assistive devices run from the routine (eyeglasses, dentures, etc.) to the unusual (prosthetic limbs, motorized wheelchairs, etc.). When assistive devices are necessary to address significant impairments in ability to perform activities of daily living, relieve pain, or otherwise significantly improve the health of a patient, they will be provided.
- B. On occasion these devices will be brought with a patient upon arrival to prison. When such a device is received, its necessity shall be reviewed by Health Services staff and a recommendation regarding its use made.
 1. If Health Services staff recommends its use, the device shall be inspected by Operations staff. If Operations staff has questions regarding the specific item, Operations and Health Services staff shall review the item and determine whether the item is necessary or whether a different assistive device will be provided.
 2. If Health Services does not recommend its use, the device will be considered property and Operations staff will determine whether or not it will be permitted.
- C. On occasion assistive devices will be provided by Vocational Rehabilitation Services or other outside agencies. When outside agencies provide devices, they will be reviewed as described in subsection B.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES DIRECTIVE-ADULT			
Indiana Department of Correction			
Manual of Policies and Procedures			
Number 3.12A	Effective Date 4/1/2022	Page 2	Total Pages 2
Title ORTHOSES, PROSTHESES, AND OTHER AIDS TO IMPAIRMENT			

- D. If assistive devices are necessary as in subsection A, they shall be provided and supported by the Health Services vendor. If questions regarding the necessity for provision of assistive devices arise, the HSA shall attempt to resolve the questions locally.
- E. Preventive maintenance, adjustments, modifications, and repairs shall be performed on assistive devices as necessary to ensure that they remain functional. Services shall be provided in a timely manner so as to prevent deterioration of patients' health conditions.
- F. In general, assistive devices should be replaced when:
 - 1. The patient's health condition changes to the extent that the current assistive device no longer meets the patient's needs;
 - 2. Weight gain/loss, growth, or surgical revision renders the current assistive device useless;
 - 3. Initial assessment, measurement, or fabrication was incorrect;
 - 4. Normal wear and tear renders an assistive device unsafe or incapable of addressing the health or ambulatory needs of the patient;
 - 5. Loss or damage to an assistive device through no fault of the patient's; or,
 - 6. When repairs to the device are no longer cost-effective.
- G. Release planning shall include arrangements that ensure the patient's need for an assistive device will continue to be met through the immediate post-release period. Physical Health Staff shall work with Transitional Health care to ensure that release planning is collaborative in nature and that the patients' needs are met.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This HCSD is applicable to all facilities housing incarcerated adults.

signature on file

Kristen Dauss, MD
Chief Medical Officer

Date