



**HEALTH CARE SERVICES
DIRECTIVE-YOUTH SERVICES
Manual of Policies and Procedures**

Title

HEALTH EVALUATION OF YOUTH IN SEPARATION

Legal References

(includes but is not limited to)

IC 11-8-2-5

Related Policies/Procedures

(includes but is not limited to)

01-02-101

Other References

(includes but is not limited to)

National Correctional Healthcare
Standards

I. PURPOSE:

Youth in separation are dependent upon facility staff for all services. Additionally, youth assigned to separation may have health conditions for which separation may be dangerous or contraindicated. This Health Care Services Directive (HCSD) describes safeguards which will help to identify those youth placed in separation who need health services, or youth who should not be placed in the separation setting.

II. GUIDELINES:

When a youth is assigned to separation, the operations staff administrator making the decision to separate shall inform Health Services immediately. Upon receiving this information, the qualified medical professional shall complete an assessment, as determined by the facility Medical Director. If the assessment suggests the presence of a health condition that contraindicates separation, the qualified medical professional shall contact the facility Medical Director for advice and orders. The Warden or designee shall be notified of the concern. If the Medical Director believes that separation is contraindicated due to a health condition, he/she shall provide a time limited order to that effect and make direct contact with the Warden or designee to inform the Warden of the reasoning. This process shall be documented in the health record.

In some facilities nurses are present for only portions of the day. In such facilities, youth who may deteriorate if placed in separation shall be identified, and two (2) lists, established, one for mental health and one for medical. These lists shall be updated twice monthly and be maintained so that the list may be consulted prior to placing a youth in separation during hours lacking on-site health services personnel coverage. Copies of the two (2) lists shall be maintained for two (2) years.

If there is evidence of a prior contact with Mental Health Services or there is reason to believe that a mental disorder may be present, the qualified medical professional

HEALTH CARE SERVICES DIRECTIVE-ADULT			
Indiana Department of Correction			
Manual of Policies and Procedures			
Number 2.21Y	Effective Date 4/1/2022	Page 2	Total Pages 3
Title HEALTH EVALUATION OF YOUTH IN SEPARATION			

shall immediately contact the facilities Lead Psychologist or designee for advice. During business hours, the Lead Psychologist or designee shall review the health record and determine if there is a contraindication to separation. If such a contraindication exists, the Lead Psychologist or designee shall contact the Warden or designee to inform him/her of the reasoning. This process shall be fully documented in the health record, regardless of whether the separation process is stopped.

During non-business hours, the Lead Psychologist may rely upon the verbal report of the nurse or other qualified health care professional in order to make an immediate determination regarding separation but shall make a personal review of the health record and the youth on the next business day if there is any suggestion that mental illness is present.

If the Lead Psychologist believes that additional evaluation is necessary in order to determine whether problems exist with separation, that evaluation shall be carried out in a timely manner.

- A. If a serious health condition is present and separation is not contraindicated, Health Services personnel shall ensure that proper services and support continue to be provided during separation. If this requires that a youth be escorted out of separation this shall be accomplished by Operations/Custody staff.

If serious mental illness has been identified, the mental health professional shall make a determination regarding the frequency of contacts necessary for maintenance during separation and modify the treatment plan accordingly.

- B. Nursing staff must see every youth in separation daily so that the youth's health status can be monitored. Documentation of these visits shall be made on State Form 46026, "Segregation/Detention Rounds Flow Sheet."
- C. If at any time during separation, a qualified medical/mental health professional determines that separation is causing deterioration in the youth's health status, or that separation is contraindicated, the qualified medical / mental health professional shall, using both Operations / Custody and Health Services Chain of Command, cause a review of the separation placement to occur.
- D. All separation contacts and reviews shall be fully documented in the EMR.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES DIRECTIVE-YOUTH Indiana Department of Correction Manual of Policies and Procedures			
Number 2.21Y	Effective Date 4/1/2022	Page 3	Total Pages 3
Title HEALTH EVALUATION OF YOUTH IN SEPARATION			

IV. APPLICABILITY:

This HCSD is applicable to all facilities providing Health Services to youth.

signature on file

Kristen Dauss, MD
Chief Medical Officer

Date