

	<b>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY</b> <b>CORRECTIONS ADMINISTRATION</b> <b>POLICY AND PROCEDURES</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> 4/21/05	<b>POLICY NO.:</b> COR.10.1A.09
		<b>SUPERSEDES (Policy No. &amp; Date):</b> COR.10F.07 (08/01/96)	
<b>SUBJECT:</b> PRIVACY OF CARE		Page 1 of 2	

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for patient privacy during clinical encounters. Patient and provider privileges are designed to encourage the patient's subsequent use of health services.

## 2.0 REFERENCES AND DEFINITIONS

### .1 References

- a. Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 26-14.6, Department of Public Safety; and Section 353C-2, Director of Public Safety, Powers and Duties.
- b. National Commission on Correctional Health Care, Standards for Health Services in Prisons and Jails, (2003).

### .2 Definitions

Clinical Encounters: Interactions between inmates and health care staff that involves medical treatment or verbal exchanges of confidential health information.

## 3.0 POLICY

- .1 A Correctional Officer shall be posted during encounters between the inmate and health care staff, community providers and hospital providers. To the extent possible, physical examinations should be conducted in rooms with half walls for visual privacy and glass on the upper half of the wall for auditory privacy. For female inmates, a cloth drape or screen can be used for visual privacy during physical examinations. Clinical encounters shall always afford auditory privacy.
- .2 Correctional Officers are exposed to patients' protected health information when on hospital duty, during transport of inmates to community providers and while on duty in the medical sections, infirmaries or therapeutic units. Correctional officers are required to keep the patient's protected health information confidential.
- .3 Extra precautions shall be taken to promote private communication between health staff and inmates when inmate complaints are triaged in a housing unit or at the inmate's cell.

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- .4 Necessary communication in any form regarding an inmate's health status from health staff to correctional officers shall be written and general in content and shall not violate patient confidentiality. A copy of the written form shall be placed in the patient's medical record.

#### 4.0 PROCEDURES

Facilities shall establish procedures.

#### 5.0 SCOPE

This policy and procedure applies to all correctional facilities and their personnel.

#### APPROVAL RECOMMENDED:

Kay A. Bauma MD MPH 12/13/04  
Medical Director Date

[Signature] 11/26/05  
Correctional Health Care Administrator Date

Frank Lopez 4-18-05  
Deputy Director for Corrections Date

APPROVED:

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Director

4-21-05  
Date