1.0 PURPOSE

To ensure that patients receive health services and follow-up in keeping with providers' recommendations, orders, and evidence based practices.

2.0 REFERENCES AND DEFINITIONS

.1 Reference

a. Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 26-14.6, Department of Public Safety; and Section 353C-2, Director of Public Safety, Powers and Duties.


.2 Definitions

a. Chronic Care: Health care services that are provided to patients over a long period of time for an ongoing illness.

b. Physician Chart Review: An evaluation by a physician of the timeliness and appropriateness of the clinical care provided to patients.

c. Provider: Facility physician or advanced practice registered nurse responsible for the planning and overall care of an incarcerated individual.

d. Responsible Physician: The facility physician designated to oversee medical matters of the facility under the supervision of the Division Medical Director. The responsible physician may also be a primary caregiver.

3.0 POLICY

.1 Provider orders are evidence-based and are implemented in a timely manner.
.2 Deviations from standards of practice are clinically justified, documented and shared with the patient.

.3 Diagnostic tests and clinical consults are reviewed by the provider in a timely manner.

.4 Treatment plans are developed and modified as clinically indicated by diagnostic tests and treatment results.

.5 Treatment plans, including test results, are shared and discussed with patients.

.6 All patients returning from emergency room and/or hospital admissions shall be seen by a Provider and have their discharge instructions/orders reviewed with appropriate follow-up ordered. Facilities where a provider is not available shall have their ER/hospital discharge orders called to and reviewed by the on-call physician for appropriate follow-up orders.

4.0 PROCEDURES

.1 Individual treatment plans are used to guide treatment for illnesses and are shared with the patient.

.2 Diagnostic test results and specialty consultations are reviewed in a timely manner, with evidence of the review documented in the record.

.3 If changes in the treatment plan are clinically indicated, justification for the alternative treatment plan is documented in the Medical Record and shared with the patient.

.4 Results of diagnostic test and specialty consult results are shared with the patient in a timely manner and documented in the record.

.5 Patients returning from either the emergency room or a hospitalization shall be seen by a provider who reviews the discharge order/instructions and issues follow-up orders, as clinically indicated.

.6 When a provider is not on-site, nursing staff shall contact the on-call physician, review the discharge orders/instructions and take and implement any issued verbal orders.
.7 The provider determines the frequency and content of periodic health assessments based on nationally recognized professional organizations' promulgated protocols.

.8 Physician Chart Reviews are performed by a physicians to assure that appropriate care is ordered and implemented and that care is coordinated by all health staff, including medical, dental, mental health and nursing.

5.0 **SCOPE**

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

**APPROVAL RECOMMENDED:**

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Medical Director

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Health Care Division Administrator

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Deputy Director for Corrections

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Director

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