1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to assure that patients with alcohol or other drug problems are assessed and properly managed by a physician.

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.


3.0 POLICY

.1 Patients with Alcohol on Other Drug (AOD) problems are assessed and managed by a physician.

.2 Correctional staff is trained in the recognition of AOD problems in inmates during Basic Corrections Training.

.3 Disorders associated with AOD are recognized and treated.

.4 There is evidence of communication and coordination between medical, mental health and substance abuse staff.

.5 On-site individual counseling, group therapy, or self-help groups are provided.

4.0 PROCEDURES

.1 All inmates shall have a drug and alcohol history and an intoxication assessment and/or withdrawal taken during intake process.

.2 Any inmate exhibiting symptoms of intoxication or withdrawal are immediately referred to and assessed by a health care professional.

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.3 Patients whose health assessment demonstrates early withdrawal symptoms shall receive treatment per established treatment protocols.

.4 Patients experiencing severe, life-threatening intoxication or withdrawal shall be immediately transported to the hospital.

.5 Patients at risk for progression to more severe levels of intoxication or withdrawal are kept under constant observation by health care staff when possible or are transported to the hospital.

.6 Pregnant patients with a history of opiate use including buprenorphine, or on a methadone or similar substance therapy will have a physician contacted immediately so that the opiate dependence or maintenance therapy can be properly managed.

.7 All patients with a drug or alcohol history shall be referred to a provider for a physical examination including:
   a. An assessment of their current medical condition.
   b. Documentation on the medical record regarding health care findings.
   c. Prescription of condition specific medications, as needed.
   d. Referral to mental health services for documented assessments and follow-up.
   e. The ordering of appropriate diagnostic tests to evaluate for the occurrence of associated disorders such as liver disease.

.8 Patients shall have access to on-site individual, group therapy, or self help groups such as AA or NA.
5.0 **SCOPE**

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

**APPROVAL, RECOMMENDED:**

acting

G. David Soldevila, MD 10/6/15

Medical Director Date

Health Care Division Administrator Date

Act. Direct. 10-07-15

Deputy Director for Corrections Date

**APPROVED:**

[Signature]

Director 10/26/15

Date