

# DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

CORRECTIONS ADMINISTRATION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 01, 2024

POLICY NO.: COR.10.D.12

SUPERSEDES (Policy No. & Date): COR.10.1D.10 of December 10, 2014

SUBJECT:

MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION IN SEGREGATION HOUSING AREAS

Page 1 of 3

## 1.0 PURPOSE

To ensure the safety of Health Care staff and incarcerated individuals relative to the administration of medication to incarcerated individuals housed in special holding/housing areas.

## 2.0 SCOPE

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

# 3.0 REFERENCES, DEFINITIONS & FORMS

#### .1 References

- a. <u>Hawaii Revised Statutes</u>, Section 26-14.6, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Section 353-A, Director of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Powers and Duties.
- b. <u>Standards for Health Services in Prisons</u>. National Commission on Correctional Health Care, (2018).
- c. <u>Standards for Health Services in Jails</u>. National Commission on Correctional Health Care, (2018).
- d. <u>Standards for Mental Health Services in Correctional Facilities</u>. National Commission on Correctional Health Care, (2015).

#### .2 Definitions

a. Segregation Housing Areas: A housing area where incarcerated individuals are placed in single cells separate from the general population for security or other reasons.

#### 4.0 POLICY

.1 Security shall notify health care nursing staff when an incarcerated individual is placed in segregation housing and shall confiscate all medications in the incarcerated individual's possession turning them over to health care staff.

# **NOT CONFIDENTIAL**

*····	SUBJECT:	POLICY NO.: COR.10.D.12
COR	MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION IN SEGREGATION HOUSING AREAS	EFFECTIVE DATE: January 01, 2024
P & PM		Page 2 of 3

- .2 Medications shall be nurse administered to all incarcerated individuals housed in segregation housing areas. With the exception of the following medications which shall be permitted to remain in the incarcerated individual's possessing with a medical needs memo:
  - a. NTG (nitroglycerin tabs)
  - b. Rescue inhalers
  - c. Eye drops, ointments
  - d. Ear drops, ointments
  - e. Nasal sprays
  - f. Topical creams
- .3 Patients housed in segregation areas shall have their medications administered in such a way as to avoid any direct contact between nursing staff and the patient.

### 5.0 PROCEDURES

- .1 Medications shall be distributed in segregation housing following the same distribution time schedule used in the general population housing areas.
- .2 Security shall accompany nursing staff from cell to cell during medication administration.
- .3 Medications shall be prepared by nursing staff and placed in a soufflé cup.
- .4 The patient's identity shall be verified and the patient shall be instructed to step back a distance of more than an arm's length from the pass-through slot or cell door.
- .5 The medication soufflé cup and a water cup, if necessary, shall be placed on the pass through or cell cross bar ledge.
- .6 The nurse shall step back and instruct the patient to take their medication. The incarcerated individual shall be instructed to face the nurse while taking the medication then place the empty soufflé cup inside the water cup, return it to the ledge, and step back to their prior location. In facilities where it is the practice to allow incarcerated individuals to keep their water cup, the nurse shall instruct the patient to return the soufflé cup and to turn the water cup so the nurse can visually see that it is empty. Security shall be notified of any incarcerated individual's failure to adhere to the nurse's procedural requests.

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	SUBJECT:	POLICY NO.: COR.10.D.12
COR	MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION IN SEGREGATION HOUSING AREAS	EFFECTIVE DATE: January 01, 2024
P & PM		Page 3 of 3

- .7 Nursing staff shall as much as possible, given sight constraints, observe patients for placing their hands into or near their mouths or into their pockets after taking their medications. Should this behavior occur the nurse shall notify security of the patient's actions.
- .8 Health care staff shall retrieve the cup(s) and place them in the trash. Patients shall not be permitted to retain any soufflé cups.
- .9 Medications shall <u>NEVER</u> be dispensed into a patient's hand while they are housed in a segregated housing area.
- .10 Patients in segregated housing taking scheduled drugs that cannot be crushed (consider contacting the provider to discuss changing the order to a crushable drug or ordering it in a liquid form) shall have the medication administered in a secured environment to allow the nurse to directly perform a mouth check to ensure swallowing of the medication. This requires the direct presence of security and possible shackling of the patient. As such, every effort shall be made to use alternative drugs or drug forms.

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APPROVED:	
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APPROVAL RECOMMENDED: