

## Management of Communicable Diseases (Title 15, Section 1408, 1410; NCCHC)

### 723.1 PURPOSE:

To establish guidelines to address the identification, treatment, control, and follow-up management of communicable diseases for youth in the Juvenile Detention and Assessment Centers (JDACs) and Treatment Facilities (TFs).

### 723.2 DEFINITIONS:

Communicable Disease: Disease that is transmissible by direct or indirect contact with infection.

Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR): A document from the State of California Health and Human Services Agency which contains special reporting requirements for reportable diseases.

Medical Isolation: Precautions taken to prevent the spread of a communicable disease. Separate sick people with a contagious disease from youth who are not sick. It is one of several measures taken to implement infection control.

Quarantine: Separate and restrict the movement of youth who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Standard Precautions: Universal precautions for body secretion isolation and applied to all patients receiving care, regardless of their diagnosis or presumed infection status.

Ectoparasite: Pediculosis (Lice) and scabies are parasites that live on the skin which are communicable and can cause secondary infections.

### 723.3 GUIDELINES:

- A. All staff shall utilize standard precautions to minimize the risk of exposure to blood and body fluids.
- B. All staff who are required to handle biohazard materials and spills shall be trained in the appropriate methods for handling and disposing of those materials.
- C. Ensure that medical single-use items, sharps, and biohazard wastes are disposed of properly.
- D. Ensure medical, dental, laboratory equipment, and instruments are decontaminated using the Infection Control Program guidelines.
- E. When indicated, youth with airborne spread communicable diseases are to be sent to a department-approved hospital for use of negative pressure rooms.

### 723.4 RESPONSIBILITIES:

- I. Correctional Nurse I/II:

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- A. Assess youth at the time of intake and while in custody for any possible communicable diseases.
  - B. Report diseases as listed by the State of California, Department of Health Services on the Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) to the local Public Health Department.
  - C. Initiate, modify, or remove the medical isolation status when warranted.
  - D. Assess youth for physical/mental status changes as follows:
    - 1. Every twelve (12) hours and as needed for those on medical isolation.
    - 2. Daily for those in quarantine.
  - E. Administer immunizations as outlined in the Standardized Procedures for Registered Nurses and as ordered by the physician/provider.
  - F. Notify custody staff of the need for personal protective equipment (PPE) as it pertains to the youth's condition.
  - G. Provide treatment as ordered by the physician/provider and as outlined in the Standardized Procedures for Registered Nurses to all youth with a known or suspected communicable disease.
  - H. Provide community referrals to youth who are released with communicable or infectious diseases.
  - I. Notify health care staff of the receiving facility prior to or at the time of release or transfer of a youth with a known or suspected communicable disease.
- II. Probation Corrections Officer (PCO):
- A. May place the youth on medical isolation in a holding room pending evaluation by the Correctional Nurse if a communicable disease is suspected and notify a supervisor immediately.
  - B. Maintain the confidentiality of the youth with a suspected/confirmed communicable disease.
  - C. Do not preclude the youth's right to personal hygiene, clean linen, clean clothing, janitorial service, and routine services such as mail, books, or magazines.
  - D. Ensure all youth infected with, and treated for ectoparasites receive disinfected bedding and clothing.
  - E. Accommodate youth on medical isolation in a separate room with:
    - 1. Separate toilet
    - 2. Hand-washing facility
    - 3. Soap dispenser
    - 4. Single-service towels
- III. Court Officers:

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- A. Inform the Court of youth not medically cleared to attend court prior to scheduled appearance time.
- IV. Transportation Unit:
  - A. Review the youth's medical status for universal precautions prior to transporting.
- V. Supervising Correctional Nurse I/II:
  - A. Report disease outbreaks in the facility to the Superintendent, Health Service Manager (HSM), Chief Medical Officer, and Department of Public Health.
  - B. Work collaboratively with the Superintendent to notify the courts, schools, and Forensic Adolescent Services Team (FAST) of disease outbreaks.
  - C. Notify the Superintendent and the HSM of youth with a confirmed diagnosis of HIV or Hepatitis.
  - D. Notify the respective court officer of all youth unable to attend the court process due to a communicable disease.
- VI. Health Service Manager (HSM):
  - A. Work collaboratively with the Chief Medical Officer, Public Health, and Risk Management for management and control of communicable diseases.
  - B. Oversee the Infection Control Program.
  - C. Report disease outbreaks in the facilities to the Chief Probation Officer.
  - D. Notify the San Bernardino County Health Officer and the Chief Medical officer of disease outbreaks in the facilities.
  - E. Report disease outbreaks that may interfere with the court process to the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Courts.
- VII. Chief Medical Officer:
  - A. Review/update and approve the Infection Control Program annually or more frequently as necessary.