



**STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
POLICY DIRECTIVE**

Policy No. DOC 4.5.56	Subject: OFFENDERS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS	
Chapter 4: FACILITY/PROGRAM SERVICES		Page 1 of 2
Section 5: Clinical Services		Effective Date: 4/19/2021
Department Director Signature: /s/ Brian Gootkin		Revised:
Medical Director Signature: /s/ Dr. Paul Rees		
Clinical Services Division Administrator Signature: /s/ Connie Winner		

I. POLICY

The Department of Corrections will ensure that offenders with Substance Use problems are assessed and properly managed by a physician or, where permitted by law, other qualified health and mental health professionals.

II. APPLICABILITY

All Department of Corrections secure care facilities.

III. DEFINITIONS

Qualified Health Care Professionals – Physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, dentists, mental health professionals and others who by virtue of their education, credentials, and experience are permitted by law to evaluate and care for offenders, including contracted or fee-for service professionals.

Qualified Mental Health Professionals – Psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric social workers, psychiatric nurses, licensed professional counselors and others who by virtue of their education, credentials, and experience are permitted by law to evaluate and care for the mental health needs of offenders.

SUD – Substance Use Disorder

IV. DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVES

A. General Requirements

1. Facilities have written clinical procedures for the management of SUD offenders.
2. There is documentation in the offender’s record of the communication and coordination between medical, mental health, and substance use staff regarding SUD care.
3. Disorders associated with SUD (e.g., HIV, liver disease) are recognized and treated.
4. Custody staff are trained in recognizing SUD problems in offenders and discussing with them.

5. There is on-site individual counseling, group therapy, or self-help groups for offenders with Substance Use disorders.
6. Didactic approaches to drug education are available to offenders.

V. CLOSING

Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the Clinical Services Division Administrator.

VI. REFERENCES

- A. *MH-G-05; National Commission on Mental Health Services in Correctional Facilities, 2015*
- B. *Y-G-06; National Commission on Correctional Health Services in Juvenile Detention and Confinement Facilities, 2015*

VII. ATTACHMENTS

None