



**MONTANA STATE PRISON  
HEALTH SERVICES OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE**

Procedure No.: MSP HS A-02.0	Subject: <b>Responsible Health Authority</b>	
Reference: DOC 4.5.2, Responsible Health Authority; NCCHC Standard P-A-02, 2018	Page 1 of 2 and no attachments	
Effective Date: November 1, 2010	Revised: October 1, 2020	
Signature / Title: /s/ Cindy Hiner / Medical Bureau Chief		
Signature / Title: /s/ Dr. Rees M.D./ Medical Director		

**I. PURPOSE**

To specify the responsible authority for health care services provided to inmates at Montana State Prison.

**II. DEFINITIONS**

Designated Health Authority- The Clinical Services Manager, regardless of title i.e. *Medical, Mental Health or Treatment*, at the facility or program level who is responsible for health services, as designated by the Responsible Health Authority.

Responsible Physician –A designated person who holds a physician’s license pursuant to 37-3-102 and 37-3-303, MCA who has the final authority at a given facility regarding clinical issues.

**III. PROCEDURES**

**A. Designated Health Authority**

1. The MSP Clinical Services Manager is the designated authority for overall operation of the clinical services program at Montana State Prison. The MSP Clinical Services Manager:
  - a. is responsible for all decisions regarding operational procedure and resource matters concerning the delivery of health care at Montana State Prison; and
  - b. administratively supervises the Dental Department, Medical Records, and the physicians/mid-level providers
2. The MSP Clinical Services Manager coordinates with the Department Medical Director and the Department Clinical Services Bureau Chiefs to ensure the delivery of all necessary and appropriate health services at MSP.

**B. Responsible Physician**

1. Montana State Prison physicians are responsible for clinical judgment regarding the care provided to inmates at the facility.
2. Operating under the guidelines established by the Department Medical Director (or designee), the physicians are responsible for the clinical aspects of the health services program, including monitoring all aspects of care and treatment.

Procedure No. MSP HS A-02	Subject: <b>Responsible Health Authority</b>
Effective Date: November 1, 2010	p.2 of 2

**C. Medical Director**

1. The Department Medical Director (or designee) will render the final medical judgment for offenders under Department jurisdiction.

**IV. CLOSING**

Questions concerning this operational procedure will be directed to the MSP Clinical Services Manager.

**V. ATTACHMENT**

none