



**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS BUREAU
FACILITY OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT**

Requirement:	PFB 6.2.480 MEDICAL AUTONOMY
Effective Date:	12/06/2023 Page 1 of 2
Revision Date(s):	
Reference(s):	PFB 6.2.482; DOC 4.5.3; 53-1-203, MCA
Signature / Title:	/s/ Scott Eychner, Community Corrections Facilities and Programs Chief

This procedure is referenced as ACCD 4.5.300 Medical Autonomy in Section 3.J. Offender Management; Healthcare, in the following contracts: Alpha House, Butte Prerelease, Elkhorn, Gallatin County Reentry Program, Helena Prerelease, Nexus, Passages, and START. This procedure is also referenced in Section 2.2.9. Services; Healthcare, in the following contracts: Connections Corrections Program (CCP) East, Connections Corrections Program (CCP) West, and WATCh West.

I. PURPOSE:

Health care staff of all facilities contracted with the Community Corrections Facilities and Programs Bureau (FPB) will follow this facility operational requirement identifying the scope of medical responsibilities and authority of the facilities.

II. DEFINITIONS:

Community Corrections Facilities and Programs Bureau – The Bureau oversees the facilities providing assessments and sanctions, prerelease, and treatment services. This Bureau is referenced interchangeably as Programs and Facilities Bureau (PFB) or Facilities and Programs Bureau (FPB) in procedures and forms.

Community Corrections Facility – Includes assessment/sanction centers, prerelease centers, and residential substance use disorder treatment facilities.

Department – The Montana Department of Corrections.

Direct Nursing Care – Skilled, professional nursing care that includes assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, implementation, and periodic evaluation.

Facility Administrator – The official, regardless of local title, ultimately responsible for the facility or program operation and management.

Health Care Staff – Includes licensed health care providers and non-licensed health care staff (for example, medical records staff, health care aides) responsible for offender health care administration and treatment.

HSB-Health Services Bureau – The Bureau within the Department responsible for the overall health care functions of medical, mental health, dental, and vision for all programs and facilities.

Managed Care – A health care delivery system managed to balance quality of services, access to care, and containment of costs.

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.

III. PROCEDURES:

A. Community Corrections Facilities

1. General Requirements

- a. The facility's health care staff will be the initial provider of on-site offender health care services.
- b. In accordance with contracts, facilities will provide offenders with access to health care services including medical, psychiatric, dental, optometric, pharmaceutical, psychological, and other medical-related services. These services must meet applicable: American Correctional Association and National Commission on Correctional Health Care standards; federal, state, and local laws and regulations; and procedures.
- c. Security regulations that apply to all contract facility staff members will apply to all health care staff.
- d. HSB must approve off-site consultations and procedures in advance of services rendered in accordance with *PFB 6.2.482 Level of Therapeutic Care*.
 - 1) For medical and dental emergencies, each facility shall report directly to cormedical@mt.gov and to the Contract Manager as soon as possible with full information regarding the nature of the illness and the type of treatment provided.

2. Health Care Delivery and Security Responsibilities

- a. The Facility Administrator will ensure that appropriately credentialed health care providers deliver services within their respective scopes of practice.
- b. The Facility Administrator will ensure access to, and monitoring of, offender health care services.
- c. The Facility Administrator is responsible to ensure proper coordination between the health care staff and the security or transportation staff assigned to move offenders to and from treatment areas.
- d. Health care providers will have complete responsibility and authority for offender health care and treatment.
- e. Staff trained in CPR and First Aid will provide emergency care within the scope of their training.
- f. Security and administrative staff will not be involved in providing direct health care or analyzing and evaluating the efficiency of health treatment or the validity of health care requests.
- g. Security and health care staff will work together, recognizing that facility and offender interests are best served when all relevant health care delivery standards are implemented.
- h. If a physician's medical order, which may be life sustaining, is in direct conflict with a security directive, the medical order will be implemented until further review by HSB and facility staff.

IV. CLOSING:

Questions concerning this facility operational requirement should be directed to the HSB Chief or the FPB Chief or designees.