



COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS BUREAU FACILITY OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT

Requirement:	PFB 6.2.487	INFECTION CONTROL PROGRAM
Effective Date:	10/01/2024	Page 1 of 2
Revision Date(s):		
Signature / Title:	/s/ Scott Eychner, Rehabilitation and Programs Chief	

This requirement is referenced as **ACCD 4.5.1100 Infection Control Program** 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.

I. Purpose:

Facilities contracted with the Community Corrections Facilities and Programs Bureau (FPB) will provide an infection control program to track the incidence of infectious and communicable disease among offenders through monitoring and surveillance; promote a safe and healthy environment; prevent the incidence and spread of disease; assure that infected offenders receive prompt care and treatment; and assure the completion and filing of all applicable reports consistent with local, state, and federal laws and regulations.

II. DEFINITIONS: (see Glossary)

III. PROCEDURES:

A. General Requirements

1. Facilities must have a written exposure control plan that is approved by the responsible medical provider. The plan is to be reviewed and updated annually.
2. Facilities must ensure prompt care and treatment to offenders afflicted with infectious or communicable disease.
3. Facilities must implement a program to minimize the incidence of infectious and communicable diseases (for example, tuberculosis (TB), skin infections, lice, scabies) among offenders.
4. Upon admission, facilities must screen offenders or refer offenders for screening for tuberculosis and acute infectious diseases according to guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
 - a. Following initial health screenings:
 - 1) Through a community provider, prerelease center residents may receive vaccines and testing for TB, Hepatitis C, and HIV/AIDS. Residents are responsible for the cost.
 - 2) For all treatment and assessment center facility residents, including inmate workers:
 - a) TB testing/screening for offenders will be completed annually by the facility's health care staff. The Department is responsible for the cost of this testing.
 - b) Hepatitis C and HIV/AIDS counseling, education, and testing will be provided if requested by offender. Offenders who request Hepatitis C and/or HIV/AIDS testing must receive pre-authorization from the Health Services Bureau. The Department is responsible for the cost of this testing.
 - c) Flu vaccines will be offered to offenders identified as at risk for complications from the flu. The Department is responsible for the cost of the vaccine.
5. When medical staff orders an offender to be isolated for an infectious disease, health care providers will follow the CDC's current guidelines for prevention and control of infection.
6. A medically advised, reported, or suspected illness that creates a safety risk is a Priority I incident and must be reported pursuant to *PFB 6.2.403 Incident Reporting Requirements*.

7. Health care staff will:
 - a. use universal precautions when providing offender health care;
 - b. use personal protective equipment that must be readily available for routine and emergency care; and
 - c. have procedures in place to account for equipment and provide annual in-service training on its use.
8. Employees of contracted facilities must follow all immunization guidelines established by the CDC and all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.

B. Prevention

1. An integral component of the infection control program is prevention of the occurrence and spread of infectious and communicable diseases.
2. Health care providers will:
 - a. offer ongoing education on communicable disease prevention to facility staff and offenders as part of the health education program;
 - b. maintain essential ongoing communication with the respective county health department and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services;
 - c. instruct employees on measures to prevent disease transmission, including additional precautions that may be necessary during transport, hospital supervision, or while in an infirmary; and
 - d. assure that continuity of care is established with appropriate documented community resources referrals, as medically indicated, prior to releasing offenders who are diagnosed with communicable or infectious disease.

C. Bodily Fluid Exposure/Medical Sharps and Biohazardous Waste/Decontamination

1. Facilities will handle and treat bodily fluid exposure incidents according to facility exposure control plans and ensure employees use standard precautions when providing offender care.
2. Facility health care staff will dispose of medical sharps and biohazardous waste using methods and materials that comply with Environmental Protection Agency standards.
3. Each facility will arrange for proper waste disposal based on resources available in their respective communities.
4. The facility will ensure that contaminated non-disposable medical, dental, and laboratory equipment is appropriately cleaned, decontaminated, and sterilized per applicable recommendations and/or regulations.

IV. CLOSING:

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

V. REFERENCE(S):

A. *DOC 1.3.35; DOC 4.5.11; PFB 6.2.403, PFB 6.2.488*

VI. FORMS:

PFB 6.2.403 (A) Priority Incident Report