I. PURPOSE

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

II. DEFINITIONS

Chief Facility Health Officer – the health authority or nursing supervisor responsible for facility health care services.

Responsible Physician – a designated MD or DO who has the final authority regarding clinical issues.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Designated Health Authority

1. The MSP Health Services Manager is the designated authority for overall operation of the health services program at Montana State Prison. The MSP Health Services manager:
   a. is responsible for all decisions regarding operational, fiscal, policy, and resource matters concerning the delivery of health care at Montana State Prison; and
   b. administratively supervises the Dental Department, Medical Records, the Director of Nursing, and the physicians/mid-level providers

2. The MSP Health Services Manager coordinates with the Department Medical Director and the Department Health Services Clinical Services Division Administrator 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, the physicians are responsible for the clinical aspects of the health services program, including monitoring all aspects of care and treatment.

C. Medical Director

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

IV. CLOSING

Questions concerning this operational procedure will be directed to the Health Services Manager.
V. ATTACHMENT

none