



## POLICY DIRECTIVE

Policy:	<b>DOC 4.5.48 HOSPITAL AND SPECIALTY CARE</b>
Effective Date:	01/04/2021 <span style="float: right;">Page 1 of 2</span>
Revision Date(s):	04/24/2026
Department Director Signature:	/s/ Eric Strauss, Director
Medical Director Signature:	/s/ Dr. Paul Rees, MD
Health Services Bureau Chief Signature:	/s/ Cynthia McGillis-Hiner, RN, MSN

### I. POLICY

The Department will ensure hospitalization and specialty care are available to offenders who need these services.

### II. APPLICABILITY

All secure facilities Department-owned and contracted.

### III. DEFINITIONS (see Glossary)

### IV. REQUIREMENTS

#### A. General Requirements

1. The Health Services Bureau ensures there is appropriate and timely access to hospital (acute care and psychiatric) and specialist care when necessary.
2. When offenders are referred for outside care, written or verbal information about the offender and the specific problem to be addressed must be communicated to the outside entity.
3. For on-site specialty services used regularly for medical and mental health care, the Health Services Bureau ensures providers are appropriately licensed and/or certified.
4. Off-site facilities or health professionals provide a summary of the treatment given and any follow-up instructions, including specific instructions about the signs, symptoms, or conditions that require return to the hospital; this information accompanies the offender on return to the facility.
5. The offender health record contains results and recommendations from off-site visits or attempts by health staff to obtain these results.

### V. CLOSING

Questions about this policy should be directed to the Health Services Bureau Chief.

**VI. REFERENCES**

- A. *P-D-08; National Commission on Correctional Health Services in Prisons, 2018*
- B. *MH-D-05; National Commission on Correctional Mental Health Services in Correctional Facilities, 2015*
- C. *Y-D-08; National Commission on Correctional Health Services in Juvenile Detention and Confinement Facilities, 2015*