

# State of Iowa Department of Corrections

## Policy and Procedures

Policy Number: HSP-205

Applicability: DOC

Policy Code: Public Access

Iowa Code Reference: N/A

Chapter 6: HEALTH SERVICES

Sub Chapter: PERSONNEL

Related DOC Policies: HSP-603, HSP-604

Administrative Code Reference: N/A

Subject: PATIENTS WORKING IN A HEALTH SERVICES ENVIRONMENT

ACA Standards: 4-4393

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Effective Date: March 2020

Authority:

### 1. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for patients when work is scheduled in the Health Services Clinic.

### 2. POLICY

The delivery of health services will be provided by the Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC) employees or staff contracted to the Iowa Department of Corrections. Patient assistance in Health Services will be limited to maintain a confidential and secure health care environment. Patients are prohibited from performing direct health care services.

### 3. DEFINITIONS

- A. Activities of Daily Living (ADL) generally refers to ambulation, bathing, dressing, feeding, toileting, and wheelchair transport.
- B. See IDOC Policy **AD-GA-16** for additional Definitions.

### 4. PROCEDURE

- A. Patients may perform duties commensurate with their level of training. **(4-4393)** These duties may include the following:

1. Housekeeping Bloodborne Pathogens worker.
  2. Peer support and education.
  3. Hospice volunteer. Refer to IDOC Policy **HSP-623**, *Hospice Services*.
  4. Work as a trained attendant to assist impaired patients on a one-to-one basis with activities of daily living. Refer to IDOC Policy **HSP-604**, *ADLA Program*.
  5. Serve as a suicide observer if qualified and trained through a formal program that is part of a suicide prevention plan. Refer to IDOC Policies **HSP-710**, *Suicide and Self-Injury Prevention* and **HSP-781**, *Mental Health Mentoring Program*.
  6. Escorting patients to and from health service areas.
- B. No patient may participate in the following components of health care delivery:
1. Performing direct patient services.
  2. Scheduling health service appointments.
  3. Determining access of other patients to health services.
  4. Handling or having access to surgical instruments, syringes, needles, medication, health records.
  5. Operating diagnostic or therapeutic equipment.
- C. Patients who perform these duties that could put them at risk for exposure to bloodborne pathogens shall be offered the Hepatitis B vaccine series and annual influenza vaccine.