State of Iowa Department of Corrections
Policy and Procedures

Policy Number: HSP-501
Applicability: Institutions
Policy Code: Public Access
Iowa Code Reference: N/A
Chapter 6: HEALTH SERVICES
Sub Chapter: HEALTH SCREENING & APPRAISALS
Related IDOC Policies: HSF-501C, HSF-501F, HSP-622, HSP-615
Administrative Code Reference: N/A
Subject: IDOC INITIAL HEALTH SCREENING & APPRAISAL
ACA Standards: 5-ACI-6A-21, 5-ACI-6A-25
PREA Standards: N/A
Responsibility: Dr. Michael Riley
Effective Date: September 4, 2026
Authority:

1. PURPOSE

To ensure proper medical and mental health data is obtained during intake.

2. POLICY

It is the policy of the Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC) to identify new patients who pose a health or safety threat to themselves or others, and promptly provide necessary health services to those who require immediate medical attention.

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A. Initial Health Screening

B. Initial Health Appraisal

3. DEFINITIONS - As used in this policy: None.

4. PROCEDURE

A. Initial Health Screening

1. The *Health Status Update form* **(HSF-501F)** that accompanies the patient from the county jail shall be forwarded to Health Services along with the information obtained and documented on **HSF-501C**, *Intake Health Service Interview*.

2. Upon admission to the IDOC, health trained correctional staff shall obtain initial health data from the patient by completing form, **HSF-501C**, *Intake Health Status Interview*. Observations of trauma, self-harm, impaired function, and mental illness shall be promptly reported to the designated discipline for appropriate intervention. The completed form is forwarded to health services and reviewed by nursing staff.

3. A medical record is initiated within 24 hours of the patient's arrival at the institution by nursing staff completing a health history interview and mental health screening. Health encounters/exams/interviews are conducted in a setting that respects the patient's privacy. For further reference on mental health procedures, see IDOC Policy **HSP-701**, *Mental Health Services*.

4. Patients are given written information in English and/or Spanish about available health services at the time of their initial health screening. There is also a written description of health services available in the handbooks on the patient living units.

B. Initial Health Appraisal

1. New patients and patients discharged for more than 366 days: Within fourteen days of admission to the prison system, patients are scheduled for health assessment, per authorization of the IDOC Medical Services Director which shall include:

   a. Health history interview and mental health screening by a licensed nurse.

   b. History and Physical by a medical practitioner.

   c. Infectious Disease Screenings:

      - HIV antibody screen, if not previously documented positive

      - Initial RPR/VDRL test

- Hep C screening, if not previously documented positive

- Tuberculosis Screen: TB Screening Questionnaire (HSF-903), Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) skin test, and/or chest x-ray to be performed if **prior history of positive PPD** or **has been previously treated for TB infection** (active or latent).

  Note: Once a baseline chest x-ray is performed, additional chest x-rays should not be performed for screening purposes.

- COVID-19 intake testing may occur when COVID-19 community hospital admission levels are high.

d. Fasting BMP if age 35-70 years and BMI > 25; prediabetes and diabetes type 2 screening

e. High Sensitivity guaiac Fecal Occult Blood Testing (HSgFOBT) if age $\geq$ 45 years using Colorectal Cancer Screening

f. Biennial Screening Mammogram for women aged 50 to 74 years

   The decision for screening with mammogram in women prior to age 50 years or greater than 74 years, should be individualized based on risk factors and shared decision making

g. Pregnancy test - < age 50

h. Pap smear – age 21 without HIV

i. Chlamydia and Gonorrhea screening for **women** based on the following:

   (1) All women $\leq$ 25 years of age if sexually active

   (2) Women $\geq$ 25 years of age if additional risk factors are present:

   - New sexual partner within the last 90 days
   - More than one sexual partner within the last 90 days
   - A sexual partner who has multiple sexual partners
   - A partner with a known STI

- Inconsistent condom use when not in a mutually monogamous relationship

- History of a previous STI

j. Dental examination (if last exam > 2 years)

k. Vision screen

l. Glaucoma Screen – patients 50 years and older

m. Completion of *Medial Work Classification*, **HSP-508**

2. Patients reentering the IDOC institutional system within 90 days of discharge/release shall have the following:

   a. A discharged patient who returns to the institutional system within 90 days of release does not require a complete health reappraisal, provided the review of his/her most recent Patient Health Summary, and current screening information fails to demonstrate any significant medical or dental problems.

   b. Female patients require pregnancy testing.

   c. *Annual Tuberculosis Screening Questionnaire Form,* **HSF-903A**.

   d. A medical practitioner's review must be entered on each patient's completed health screen.

3. Patients reentering the IDOC after having been in the community for 90 to 365 days:

   a. An HIV antibody screen, Hepatitis C antibody screen, and test for syphilis, are done unless documented data indicates that any or all tests are clinically unnecessary or a current test has been completed within the IDOC within the last 6 months.

   b. Tuberculosis Screen: Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) skin test and/or chest x-ray to be performed if **prior history of positive PPD** or **has been previously treated for TB infection** (active or latent).

Note: Once a baseline chest x-ray is performed, additional chest x-rays should not be performed for screening purposes.

c. Female patients require pregnancy testing.

d. A medical practitioner's review must be entered on each patient's completed health screen.

e. Patients received into the IDOC as a Parole Revocation Hearing (08) for short-term custody require modified screening. (See **HSP-622**, *Detainee Services*).

f. A Medical Record will be established and appropriate information will be entered.

g. Patients/detainees should receive a copy of *Health Services Programs – Short Term Stays*, **HSF-501D**, which is available in English and Spanish.

4. Patients returning to the IDOC after being out on court order greater than 30 days shall have the following completed:

   a. Nursing encounter with full set of vitals, weight check, as well as an assessment of the patient's medical and mental health status.

   b. Review for current PPD testing within the last year.

   c. *Annual Tuberculosis Screening Questionnaire Form,* **HSF-903A**

   d. Review of prior and current medication orders.

   e. Review of prior LAN/Work Classes/Diets

5. Screening results indicating need for medical practitioner review:

   a. Unresolved Major Problems.

   b. Health conditions currently being managed with the use of prescribed medication.

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c. Health screen findings suggesting a possible current but undiagnosed health problem.

d. A medical practitioner's review must be electronically documented on each patient's completed health screen.

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