

State of Iowa Department of Corrections Policy and Procedures

Policy Number: HSP-504

Applicability: DOC

Policy Code: Public Access

Iowa Code Reference: N/A

Chapter 6: Health Services

Sub Chapter: Health Screening and Appraisals

Related DOC Policies: HSP-502, HSF-304A

Administrative Code Reference: N/A

Subject: Exit Health Consultation

PREA Standards: N/A

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Authority:

1. PURPOSE

To facilitate a continuum of care for patients exiting the Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC).

2. POLICY

It is the policy of the IDOC to provide a detailed medical summary of the patient's health status upon exit.

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3. DEFINITIONS - See IDOC Policy AD-GA-16 for Definitions.

4. PROCEDURES

A. Exit Summary

1. The patient Exit Summary Screen is electronically generated on all patients leaving Iowa's institutional correctional system.
2. Patient consent is not required when providing health information in reference to patients leaving to work release, parole, parole furlough, or shock probation.
3. Likewise, patient consent is not required when IDOC patients leave under authorization of a court order, (e.g., return to jail), but at the time of departure are still under sentence to the Iowa Department of Corrections.
4. With patient consent, health information is to be shared with other agencies or persons (e.g., mental health institutes), receiving custody of a departing patient.
5. The Patient Exit Summary screen must also be completed on patients discharging free of supervision. Under these circumstances, a copy is to be made available to the departing patient.

B. Prescriptions

1. All patients leaving the institution for discharge of sentence, parole, parole furlough, shock probation, work release, OWI facilities, residential care facilities, etc., will be given an appropriate supply of medication, as determined by the DOC's licensed medical practitioners, not to exceed a 30-day supply. If specified, the patient's prescription information may also include instructions on how to have 2 additional refills, good for 90 days from the patient's date of release, transferred to a community pharmacy of the patient's choosing. Mental health medications may be obtained at no cost from the SafeNetRX pharmacy; all other medications must be paid for by the patient. If the medication order expires prior to 30 days from the date of departure, the quantity of medication dispensed will be sufficient to last until the expiration date of the medication order. Prescriptions for controlled substances will not be transferrable or refillable.
2. With appropriate notification, court orders may receive up to a 30-day supply of medication. If there is not enough advance notice received, nursing staff at the facility may package up a 24-hour supply of the patient's medication, labeled with the patient's name, ID number, medication name, dose, and directions for use, and send it with the patient to court. If the receiving jail or other facility needs more than this 24-hour supply, they can contact the appropriate IDOC pharmacy and make further arrangements. The IDOC will not be responsible for any medication costs

for patients and/or the jail will not be reimbursed if the receiving jail or facility chooses to obtain medications from other sources.

3. Discharging patients receiving medication(s) for acute illness(es), (e.g. streptococcal pharyngitis), should receive a sufficient amount of medication so as to complete a course of therapy consistent with accepted medical practice. The attending Licensed Medical Practitioner will document the rationale for the exception.
4. The State Department of Public Health will be provided information concerning patients receiving medication to prevent or treat tuberculosis upon completion of the Tuberculosis Control Program Form in ICON Medical.

C. Medical Records

When indicated, other medical records will be shared with community health providers when the requisite *Consent to Release Information form*, **HSF-304A**, has been signed by the patient.

D. UIHC Pending Appointment

When a patient is released from the Department of Corrections, to assure there is no break in continued care between the patient and the UIHC, the following will be done:

1. Patients being released from the Department of Corrections will receive information on their pending appointments at UIHC at the time of their release. The information shall include the dates of the appointments and instructions on how to contact UIHC regarding these appointments.
2. A *Consent to Release Information form*, **HSF-304A**, needs to be completed if the patient requests the facility to contact UIHC with their forwarding address.