

Section 10: Medical / Mental Health

Subject: Medical Co-Pay

Minimum Standard:

Revised:

Authorized: _____ Effective date: _____
Sheriff Paul A. Sigsworth

POLICY

In accordance with Resolution Number 02-210, the Erie County Sheriff Office Policies, Ohio Revised Code Section 341:06 and the Minimum Standards for the State of Ohio (5120:01-08-09, Medical Services), the Erie County Sheriff's Office will institute a Medical Co-Pay policy, charging sentenced inmates a nominal fee for medical services and medications. The cost of such services shall not exceed the actual cost, nor shall services or medication be denied due to insufficient funds. In all cases the current Medical Services policy shall be observed. The purpose of this policy is an attempt to curtail and control the increasing medical expenditures generated by the inmates at the Erie County Jail. At no time shall proper medical treatment be denied for any reason, including insufficient funds.

Definitions

Initial sick call: shall be defined as the first initial evaluation completed by the Jail Medical Staff that is mandatory for all inmates incarcerated for a period longer than 24 hours.

Immediate Medical Care: is defined as that care which needs immediate medical attention.

Billable Sick Call: is defined as medical services for non-emergency illness or injury.

Doctor Call: shall be when an inmate requests to see the doctor for a non-emergency illness or injury, or when the Nursing Staff determines that an inmate needs to see the Doctor for follow-up to any sick call event. If an inmate visits the Doctor they will not be charged for both a sick call and doctor call unless it is at the inmate's request.

Sentenced Inmate: shall be defined as any inmate who has been adjudicated to a specific term of confinement as ordered by a court of law.

PROCEDURE

A. Medical Fee Schedule

1. Doctor Visit: \$10.00
2. Prescription Medication: \$4.00 each
3. Tylenol: \$0.30
4. Antacid: \$0.25
- 5.

B. During the initial sick call event, the jail nursing staff, as part of the initial evaluation, will explain to the inmate the procedure for additional sick calls, and the policies pertaining to the Medical Co-Payment procedures. A copy of the policy that lists fees may be provided at the inmate's request.

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- C. During the daily procedures, the nurse on duty will document the services rendered in which the Medical Co-Payment policies apply. At the end of each shift the nursing staff will forward the medical Co-Pay report to the Jail Administrator or his designee for withdrawal of funds from the inmate's account.
- D. If the inmate is indigent at the time of services, the inmate commissary account system will record a negative balance allowing for payments to be recouped at a later date.
- E. The Jail Administrator will be responsible for maintaining accounts and keeping a detailed ledger of all transactions associated with the inmate Medical Co-Payment Policy. A monthly report shall be submitted to the Sheriff for his review. All revenue encumbered shall be paid to the Inmate Commissary Account in accordance to RC 341.06(B)(1).
- F. The normal grievance procedure as defined in the Erie County Jail Rules and Regulations Pamphlet shall be utilized for any discrepancies or complaints pertaining to Medical Co-Payment issues.