

Section 10: Medical / Mental Health

Subject: Confidentiality

Minimum Standard: 5120:1-8-09 (X)

Revised:

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

POLICY

Information about an inmate's health status is confidential. Non health trained staff only has access to specific medical information on a need to know basis in order to preserve the health and safety of the specific inmate, other inmates, volunteers, visitors, criminal justice professionals, or correctional staff. Information provided to correctional staff, volunteers, and visitors address only the medical needs of the inmate as it relates to housing, program placement, security, and transport.

PROCEDURE

1. Health Department Nurses assigned to the Jail shall be responsible for maintaining medical records.
2. All inmate medical records are confidential.
3. These records are accessible by the Physician, Nursing Staff, and Erie County Health Department medical record auditors only.
4. Corrections Staff may be advised of inmate's health and/or mental health records status only to preserve the health and safety of the specific inmate, other inmates, volunteers, visitors, criminal justice professionals, or correctional staff.
 - a. Any such authorization shall be at the discretion of the health authority.
 - b. Information provided to correctional staff, volunteers, and visitors address only the medical needs of the inmate as it relates to housing, program placement, security, and transport.