

Section 10: Medical / Mental Health
Subject: Mental Health Services
Minimum Standard: 5120:1-8-09 (M)
Revised: 07/2004, 05/2011, 12/2011, 10/2015

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

POLICY

Inmates evidencing signs of mental illness or developmental disability shall be referred immediately to qualified mental health personnel. The health authority shall develop policies for screening for mental health problems, referral to outpatient services, including psychiatric care, crisis intervention and management of acute psychiatric episodes, stabilization of the mentally ill and prevention of psychiatric deterioration in the jail, referral and admission to inpatient facilities, and informed consent.

PROCEDURE

A. Screening

1. All inmates will be screened for mental health concerns during the reception process.
 - a. The admitting Corrections Officer will ask mental health specific questions from the Preliminary Health (Receiving) Screen.

B. Request

1. Any inmate may request counseling or other psychological services.
 - a. Corrections Officers who have an inmate requesting mental health services will help the inmate fill out a Referral for CDTC assessment.

C. Referrals

1. Non-Emergency:
 - a. Corrections Officer would observe an inmate exhibiting signs of emotional or psychological distress, or have an inmate request mental health services will help the inmate fill out a Referral for CDTC assessment.
 - b. Using this form the Corrections Officer will determine the priority level.
 1. If high, the inmate will be moved to an observation cell, placed on watch, and Firelands Mental Health contacted immediately.
 2. If medium, the Corrections Officer will contact Firelands Mental Health to conduct a phone assessment as soon as possible.
 3. If low, the form will be submitted for follow up with the Jail Adjustment Consultation Services.
 - c. Mental Health issues are referred to Firelands Regional Medical Center Counseling and Recovery Services, not the Jail Physician.
 1. There is staff who regularly visits the jail to see inmates in need of consultation.
 - a. When an inmate is seen by Jail Adjustment Consultation Services the Mental Health Professional will complete a Jail Adjustment form.
 - b. This form will be forwarded to the Medical Staff.

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- c. Any recommendation made in this form will be immediately followed by the jail staff.
2. Emergency:
 - a. The Corrections Officer who discovers a mental health emergency (signs of severe depression, drastic mood changes, suicidal ideation, and hallucinations) will immediately notify other officers on duty of the type of mental health emergency.
 1. If the nurse is confronted with a situation when there is a concern that the inmate is in immediate danger of hurting themselves, they will stay with the inmate and call for assistance from officers.
 2. If the emergency involves a suicide attempt, officers will follow the Jail Emergency Response Plan – Suicide policy.
 - b. When possible the Corrections Officer will isolate the inmate to a holding cell and place the inmate on an observation watch.
 - c. Firelands Mental Health will be contacted immediately to conduct either a phone assessment or a face to face interview.
 - d. Firelands Mental Health will:
 1. Determine if the mental health emergency warrants the inmate being referred to Northern Ohio Psychiatric Hospital (NOPH).
 2. Coordinate the necessary tests and information to be provided and requested by NOPH in order for the transportation to be arranged.
 3. Provide crisis intervention.
 4. Ensure informed consent.
 - e. At the conclusion of any assessment conducted by Firelands Mental Health the Mental Health Professional will complete a Crisis Incident Report.
 1. A Copy of this report will be forwarded to the Medical Staff
 - f. In the Event the inmate is to be admitted to NOPH, the shift supervisor will:
 1. Notify the Jail Administrator or designee.
 2. Prepare an Order to Hold.
 - g. All involved officers will complete a Jail Incident Report in the Jail Record Management System as soon as possible.