



CORRECTIONS MEDICINE
Health Assessment
ACA Standard: 4 ALDF – 4C – 24

Effective: January 1994
Revised: April 2016, August 2019
Reviewed: Aug 2001, Apr 2017, Feb 2018, May 2019

Policy Number:
CM – 33

- I. **PURPOSE:** To evaluate the health status of each patient booked into the Buzz Westfall Justice Center.

- II. **POLICY:** A comprehensive health assessment will be performed by Corrections Medicine personnel within 14 days of patient being placed in the Buzz Westfall Justice Center, with most assessments completed within 48 hours of admission.

- III. **RESPONSIBILITY:** All staff working in the Corrections Medicine program are responsible for the content of this policy and procedure as well as adherence to the policy.

- IV. **PROCEDURE:**
 - 1. The health assessment must be performed by a Registered Nurse (RN). The RN shall review the initial intake receiving screening for stated current and history of medical problems.
 - 2. The RN shall take and document a past medical, surgical, dental, mental health and immunization history.
 - 3. Laboratory and/or diagnostic tests to detect communicable diseases including sexually transmitted infections and tuberculosis shall be ordered.
 - 4. The height, weight, and vital signs shall be obtained.
 - 5. Mental health history shall be reviewed and appropriate referrals made. If there is an urgent mental health issue, the patient will either be sent to the hospital for assessment or transferred to the infirmary and scheduled to see a mental health provider.
 - 6. Dental status shall be reviewed. If the patient requires dental treatment, a referral shall be completed. If there is indication of an abscess, the standing order protocol for dental problems shall be initiated. If urgent dental care is needed, the medical provider shall be contacted to determine appropriate treatment.
 - 7. If indicated, the nurse shall contact the provider and additional tests and/or examinations shall be completed as appropriate.
 - 8. If the patient has chronic or acute but non-emergent medical problems that require follow up assessment or treatment, a referral shall be made and the patient shall be scheduled for a clinic appointment with a medical provider.
 - 9. Substance use history shall be obtained and a referral sent to the medication assisted treatment RN supervisor if the patient reports use of opioids.