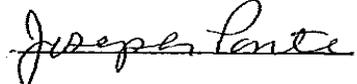


POLICY TITLE: COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND INFECTION CONTROL, GENERAL		PAGE 1 OF 4
POLICY NUMBER: 18.8		
CHAPTER 18: HEALTH CARE SERVICES		
	STATE of MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS Approved by Commissioner: 	PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS See Section VII
	EFFECTIVE DATE: August 15, 2003	LATEST REVISION: February 28, 2013

I. AUTHORITY

The Commissioner of Corrections adopts this policy pursuant to the authority contained in 34-A M.R.S.A. Section 1403.

II. APPLICABILITY

All Departmental Adult Facilities

III. POLICY

It is the policy of the Department of Corrections to maintain disease control programs to monitor the incidence of communicable and infectious diseases, promote a safe and healthy environment and reduce the incidence and spread of these diseases through prompt care and treatment.

Each adult facility shall have a plan for the management of biohazardous waste and decontamination of medical and dental equipment.

IV. CONTENTS

- Procedure A: Communicable Disease and Infection Control
- Procedure B: Prevention
- Procedure C: Reporting
- Procedure D: Communicable Disease and Infection Management

V. ATTACHMENTS

None

VI. PROCEDURES

Procedure A: Communicable Disease and Infection Control

1. Each facility shall have access to written plans that address the management of communicable and infectious diseases.
2. These plans shall include procedures for:
 - a. prevention, to include immunizations, when applicable
 - b. surveillance (identification and monitoring)
 - c. prisoner education and staff training
 - d. treatment, to include medical isolation, when indicated
 - e. follow-up care
 - f. reporting requirements to applicable local, state, and federal agencies
 - g. confidentiality/protected health information
 - h. appropriate safeguards for prisoners and staff
 - i. post-exposure management protocols particularly for HIV and viral hepatitis infection
3. Each quarterly Medical Audit Committee (MAC) meeting shall be attended by the Department's Health Services Coordinator, or designee, the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, the facility's Health Services Administrator (HSA) and other necessary members of the facility and health care staff. The purpose of the meeting is to review and discuss issues that impact or are related to the delivery of health care services, to include but not be limited to, reviewing and monitoring compliance with established practices relating to communicable and infectious disease control.
4. The MAC shall also be responsible to review and address any issues related to communicable and infectious disease control referred to them by the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, or the facility Health and Safety Committee.
5. Written minutes of each meeting shall be taken, kept on file, and copies provided to the facility Chief Administrative Officer, or designee.

Procedure B: Prevention

1. The Health Service Administrator (HSA), or designee, at each facility shall ensure that all staff are trained in applicable procedures and practices related to disease prevention and universal precautions, and, as appropriate, disposal of sharps and biohazardous waste, the decontamination of medical and dental equipment, methods of transmission of communicable and infectious diseases and recommended treatment for infectious diseases.

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2. The HSA, or designee, shall provide education for the prisoner population that includes communicable and infectious diseases, disease prevention and universal precautions, as applicable.
3. Health care staff shall conduct surveillance and monitoring for communicable and infectious diseases, including sexually transmitted diseases, when applicable.
4. All staff and prisoners shall be tested for Tuberculosis annually. (See policy 18.8.2)

Procedure C: Reporting

1. The Health Service Administrator, or designee, shall be responsible for reporting to the Maine Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Regional Medical Director all prisoners newly diagnosed with reportable infections, including tuberculosis, hepatitis, HIV and reportable sexually transmitted diseases. This information must be reported to the CDC and the Regional Medical Director as soon as possible. Conditions such as wide spread influenza, or any infectious disease, such as tuberculosis, which may present a grave danger to others, shall also be reported as soon as possible to the CDC, Regional Medical Director, the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, and the Department's Health Services Coordinator.

Procedure D: Communicable Disease and Infection Management

1. All aspects of communicable and infectious disease management shall follow current guidelines established by the Maine Center for Disease Control and Maine OSHA regulations.
2. Infectious disease management for bloodborne pathogens and other body materials, including MRSA, Hepatitis A, B, and C, and HIV, shall also be in accordance with Policy 18.8.1, Communicable Disease and Infection Control, Bloodborne Pathogens and other Infectious Body Materials.
3. Infectious disease management for airborne pathogens, including tuberculosis, shall also be in accordance with Policy 18.8.2, Communicable Disease and Infection Control, Airborne Pathogens
4. Treatment of a prisoner with an infectious disease shall be in accordance with the plan of care ordered by the physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.

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VII. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

ACA:

ACI – 4-4354 (MANDATORY) There is a written program to address the management of communicable and infectious diseases in offenders. The program plan shall include procedures for:

- prevention to include immunizations, when applicable
- surveillance (identification and monitoring)
- offenders' education and staff training
- treatment to include medical isolation, when indicated
- follow-up care
- reporting requirements to applicable local, state, and federal agencies
- confidentiality/protected health information
- appropriate safeguards for offenders and staff
- post-exposure management protocols particularly for HIV and viral hepatitis infection

Communicable disease and infection control activities are discussed and reviewed at least quarterly by a multidisciplinary team that includes clinical, security, and administrative representatives.

ACI - 4-4358 (MANDATORY) There is a plan for the management of biohazardous waste and for the decontamination of medical and dental equipment.

4-ACRS-4C-09 The facility provides for the management of serious and infectious diseases.

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