

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Name: Ectoparasite Control

Policy Number: 507.04.73

Effective Date: 01/19/2022

Page Number: 1 of 3

Authority:
Commissioner

Originating Division:
Health Services Division
(Physical Health)

Access Listing:
Level I: All Access

I. Introduction and Summary:

Offenders will receive Prophylactic Treatment for Ectoparasites upon admission to any Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) Diagnostic Facility and thereafter treated as medically indicated. This policy is applicable to all State, Private and County Prisons, Probation, Detention, Transitional Centers and Boot Camps.

II. Authority:

- A. GDC Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs): 507.04.19 Receiving Screening, 507.04.70 Infection Control Program, and 507.04.71 Environmental Health and Safety;
- B. NCCHC 2018 Adult Standards: P-B-02 and P-E-02; and
- C. ACA Standard: 5-ACI-6A-12.

III. Definitions:

- A. **Ectoparasites** - Pediculosis (body, head, or pubic lice) and scabies (mites) are parasites that live on the skin. They are communicable to other individuals through close personal contact or through shared clothing, bedclothes, etc. Infestation with these Ectoparasites may lead to secondary infections.
- B. **Prophylactic Treatment** - Taking or using medication to prevent an infestation or illness.

IV. Statement of Policy and Applicable Procedures:

- A. Prophylactic Treatment for Ectoparasites:
 - 1. Upon admission to a diagnostic facility, offenders will be screened and treated Prophylactically for pediculosis (lice).
 - 2. Correctional officers or other staff supervising the Prophylactic Treatment of offenders for pediculosis will be instructed by health care personnel in the

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proper use of non-prescription antiparasitic shampoos (Nix). Written instructions will be posted in the showering area in the I.D. section and will include:

- a. Saturate hair and scalp especially behind ears and on nape of the neck.
 - b. Leave on hair no longer than 10 minutes, then rinse well.
 - c. It is for external use only.
 - d. Do not use near eyes or permit contact with mucous membranes (mouth, nose).
 - e. If the product gets into the eyes, flush immediately with water.
 - f. In case of accidental ingestion, contact Health Services immediately.
3. Upon arrival at a facility, any offender noted to have a visible infestation will be reported to the I.D. personnel. They will be referred immediately to Health Services for evaluation and treatment.
 4. All offenders will be instructed to bathe with a non-prescription shampoo or lotion containing 1% Permethrin (Nix) for lice, Ivermectin 1 dose for scabies, as a Prophylactic measure. Follow most recent treatment for scabies posted in the GDC formulary Instruction should include location and duration of use and precautions (e.g., avoid eye contact). Permethrin 1% (Nix) is safe for use by pregnant women.
 5. Lindane (Kwell shampoo or lotion) is not recommended for use in pregnant or lactating women. Lindane is not to be used Prophylactically upon entry to the system.
 6. Offenders returning to any GDC facility on a parole revocation will also receive Prophylactic Treatment.

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7. Offenders may refuse Prophylactic Treatment. However, if an active infestation is diagnosed, the offender will be medically isolated until treatment is accepted and completed.

B. Treatment for Pediculosis or Scabies:

1. Correctional personnel will refer offenders who report symptoms of infestation or who have visible infestation to health services for evaluation and treatment.
2. The Medical Director or designee will notify the Shift Supervisor of infection control measures to be taken in the event that the offender is diagnosed with pediculosis or scabies. These measures will include:
 - a. Bed linens, towels and clothing used by the infested offender during the two days before treatment should be washed in hot water (130°) and dried in the hot cycle of a dryer at least twenty (20) minutes or until completely dry.
 - b. Offenders sharing the same room as the person infested, should be evaluated, and treated Prophylactically.
 - c. Mattresses and other personal items (combs, brushes, etc.) should be sealed and stored unused for 72 hours. Mattresses should not be burned.
 - d. Fumigation of living areas is not necessary.
3. All incidents of infestations will be reported to the Infection Control Nurse.

V. Attachments: None.

VI. Record Retention of Forms Relevant to this Policy: None.