

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Name: Health Related Training for Correctional Officers

Policy Number: 507.03.11

Effective Date: 1/25/2022

Page Number: 1 of 3

Authority:
Commissioner

Originating Division:
Health Services Division
(Physical Health)

Access Listing:
Level I: All Access

I. Introduction and Summary:

Correctional Officers will be provided health related training as appropriate to their duties. This policy is applicable to all facilities that house Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) offenders, which includes private and county prisons.

II. Authority:

- A. NCCHC 2018 Adult Standard: P-C-04; and
- B. ACA Standards: 5-ACI-1D-12 and 5-ACI-1D-13.

III. Definitions: None.

IV. Statement of Policy and Applicable Procedures:

- A. Health Related Training Program at the Basic Correctional Officer Training (BCOT) Program.
 - 1. A health-related training program for BCOT will be developed by the Office of Health Services in collaboration with the Office of Professional Development and reviewed annually.
 - 2. This training will include, but not be limited to:
 - a. First Aid;
 - b. Recognizing the need for emergency care and intervention in life-threatening situations (e.g., potential suicide, heart attacks, and withdrawal);
 - c. Recognizing acute manifestations of chronic illness (e.g., seizures, diabetes) and adverse reactions to medications;

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- d. Recognizing signs and symptoms of mental illness;
- e. Procedures for suicide prevention;
- f. Procedures for appropriate referral of offenders with health complaints to health staff;
- g. Precautions and procedures with respect to infectious and communicable diseases. (e.g., Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, and HIV);
- h. Basic Life Support, including proper use of a micro-shield;
- i. Methods of obtaining assistance and procedures for transfers to appropriate medical providers or medical facilities;
- j. Conducting receiving screening when medical staff are not on-site for after-hours offender arrival;
- k. Medication administration and documentation on the Medication Administration Record; and
- l. Confidentiality of health records and health information.

3. Documentation of the outline of the training including course content and length will be maintained by the BCOT Academy staff.

B. Continuing Health Education for Correctional Officers:

1. Correctional officers who work with offenders receive health related training at least every two (2) years. This training includes, at a minimum, those items listed above (IV.A.2).

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2. The facility training officer will be responsible for coordinating health-related training for non-medical staff at the facility. Health care providers may serve as instructors for selected topics as needed.
3. Documentation of training will be maintained by the assigned training officer.

V. **Attachments:** None.

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