Section 5-03 - Inmate Health Care

5-03-010 Sick Call Procedures

PURPOSE OF ORDER:

The purpose of this order is to establish procedures for sick call.

SCOPE OF ORDER:

This order shall apply to all personnel assigned to Pitchess Detention Center (PDC), North Facility.

ORDER:

Correctional Health Services (CHS) shall provide sick call to inmates housed at PDC, North Facility, Monday through Friday.

Signs are clearly posted in each module dormitory describing the sick call procedures for PDC, North Facility. Accommodations shall be made for inmates who are unable to read or understand the instructions. Procedures for sick call are also outlined in the inmate orientation video that is played daily.

SICK CALL REQUESTS

Inmates requiring non-emergent medical attention shall complete a CHS Health Service Request Form. Forms shall be readily available inside each dormitory. Once the form is completed, the inmate shall place it in the locked collection box. The sergeant shall check the box once per shift and forward all Health Service Request Forms to CHS.

SICK CALL PROCEDURES

The Dormitory Control Officer shall allow the inmates on the sick call list provided by CHS personnel to exit the dorm and report to the module clinic when requested.

Deputy personnel shall provide security for medical staff during sick call by standing in close proximity to the medical office, and supervising the inmates while they receive medical attention.

After completion of sick call, each inmate shall immediately return to their dorm. Module personnel shall log sick call in the electronic Uniform Daily Activity Log.

Should an inmate require medical attention during hours when sick call is unavailable, they shall be transported to the PDC South Facility clinic or the North County Correctional Facility (NCCF) infirmary for examination. If the inmate's condition prevents them from being transported, the doctor or nurse from NCCF

or PDC South Facility shall respond to PDC, North Facility to perform the examination.

5-03-020 Self-Medication Program and Pill Call

PURPOSE OF ORDER:

The purpose of this order is to provide guidelines for the administration of prescription medication to inmates.

SCOPE OF ORDER:

This order shall apply to all personnel assigned to Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) North Facility.

ORDER:

SELF-MEDICATION PROGRAM

Inmates who have been pre-screened to meet the criteria for the Self-Medication Program shall receive a limited supply of their prescribed medication at one time. Inmates shall be given their medication individually during regular clinic hours by Correctional Health Services (CHS) personnel. CHS personnel shall monitor the inmate's compliance. If an inmate abuses the program or declines to participate in the program any longer, self-medications shall be confiscated.

PILL CALL PROCEDURES

Nursing staff shall conduct pill call during the times indicated on the inmate medication disbursement schedule created by CHS personnel. Custody personnel shall make an announcement notifying inmates when pill call is commencing. Pill call shall be conducted in each dorm's sally ports. At no time shall the nurse or pill cart enter the dorm. Inmates housed in E-Row cells shall walk to the cell door for CHS personnel to dispense medication through the tray slot. Module personnel shall provide security by standing in close proximity while CHS personnel dispenses medication. Custody personnel shall ensure each inmate has a legible wristband to present to CHS personnel prior to receiving their medication. It is the responsibility of CHS personnel to ensure each inmate places provided medication in their mouth and drinks water. Custody personnel shall make a reasonable effort to ensure the inmate ingest the medication. An inmate has the right to refuse medication, however, refusals must be made directly to medical personnel. Each Dormitory Control Officer and Module Control Officer shall log pill call into the electronic Uniform Daily Activity Log.

5-03-040 Ambulance and Paramedic Services

PURPOSE OF ORDER:

Printed: 4/18/2025 (WEB)

The purpose of this order is to establish procedures for ambulance and paramedic services.

SCOPE OF ORDER:

This order shall apply to all personnel assigned to Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) North Facility.

ORDER:

In the event an employee, inmate, or visitor becomes injured or ill requiring emergent medical attention/transportation, a request for paramedic response and ambulance transportation shall be made in the following manner:

- Medical staff, when available, shall make the determination for the necessity of paramedic response and ambulance transportation for an employee, inmate, or visitor
- The handling deputy shall notify the watch deputy of the nature of the illness/injury, basic information of the injured/ill person including name and booking number, and request for paramedic response and ambulance transportation to be dispatched
- In the absence of medical staff, any facility personnel may request paramedic response and ambulance transportation for a medical emergency

WATCH DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

The watch deputy shall call the Los Angeles County Fire Department to request paramedic response and ambulance transportation to respond. All pertinent information regarding the emergency request and response including the initial time of the incident, the time fire dispatch was contacted, and the time that emergency personnel arrived on scene shall be logged in the facility Daily Activity Log. The watch deputy shall also ensure that the handling deputy completes a Paramedic/Ambulance Transportation Information form prior to transporting the inmate. At the direction of the watch sergeant, the watch deputy shall ensure that two armed and fully equipped deputies are assigned to provide security for any inmate transported by ambulance.

[REDACTED TEXT]

[REDACTED TEXT]

[REDACTED TEXT]

Printed: 4/18/2025 (WEB)

5-03-060 Affordable Care Act Forms

PURPOSE OF ORDER:

The purpose of this order is to establish procedures for completing the Affordable Care Act (ACA) forms for inmates hospitalized over 24 hours.

SCOPE OF ORDER:

This order shall apply to all personnel assigned to Pitchess Detention Center (PDC), North Facility.

ORDER:

When an inmate is hospitalized at a private hospital [REDACTED TEXT] for over 24 hours, deputies assigned to hospital security shall ensure the hospitalized inmate completes and signs an ACA Screening Form and a California Department of Health Care Services MC-306 Appointment of Representative form. If the inmate is over 65 years old, the inmate shall also complete a California Department of Health Care Services MC-210 Property Supplement form.

In the event the inmate refuses to sign the form, deputies assigned to hospital security shall complete the form with all known information, and write "inmate refused" on the top portion of the form.

The watch sergeant shall ensure the completed original forms are sent via county mail to the appropriate Access to Care personnel at Inmate Reception Center.

Desk personnel shall attach a copy of the forms, along with the date they were mailed, to the inmate hospital packet located in the watch sergeant's office.

5-03-070 Acceptance of Prescription/Corrective Eyeglasses

PURPOSE OF ORDER:

The purpose of this order is to establish procedures for accepting prescription/corrective eyeglasses for inmates.

SCOPE OF ORDER:

Printed: 4/18/2025 (WEB)

This order shall apply to all personnel assigned to Pitchess Detention Center (PDC), North Facility.

ORDER:

PDC, North Facility shall accept all approved prescription/corrective eyeglasses as described in the Correctional Health Services (CHS), Medical/Mental Health Procedures Manual. The eyeglasses shall have plastic frames. No wire frames shall be permitted.

The eyeglasses shall be received during visiting hours or via the U.S. mail. During visiting hours, the inmate's visitor shall deliver the eyeglasses to module personnel. Module personnel shall inspect the eyeglasses to ensure they are not made from wire and verify the inmate has appropriate medical documentation or a prescription. If no documentation is available, module personnel shall contact CHS personnel to verify. The eyeglasses shall then be immediately delivered to the inmate. If the prescription/corrective eyeglasses are sent via U.S mail, Inmate Services shall deliver the eyeglasses to the inmate after inspection.
