INFORMATION ON HEALTH CARE SERVICES

PURPOSE: To establish a system by which inmates have access and are aware of the medical, dental, and mental health services available to them.

POLICY:

I. The facility health administrator (TTUHSC)/practice manager (UTMB) is responsible for the development of a procedure that assures all inmates receive information, both orally and in writing, describing the procedure for obtaining emergency and routine medical, mental health and dental services, and the utilization of the grievance mechanism which includes the use of the informal resolution process within 24 hours of their arrival at the facility. This information should be posted in the Medical Department and all living areas in English and Spanish. Health education materials and information on how the materials may be obtained will also be provided to the inmate. Access to care information will include the inmate’s right to refuse medical, dental and mental health treatment except when this would endanger the inmate or other people.

II. Special procedures will be used to ensure that inmates who have difficulty communicating (e.g., those who are developmentally disabled, illiterate, mentally ill or deaf) have access to health services.

Reference: TDCJ Administrative Directive AD-06.07, Access to Health Services
ACA Standard 4-4344 Access to Care, Mandatory