HEALTH APPRAISAL OF INCOMING OFFENDERS

PURPOSE: To describe a mechanism for assessing the health status of incoming offenders.

POLICY: A comprehensive medical evaluation will be completed on all new incoming offenders, including offenders returning from bench warrant, within seven days of their arrival in the system. Offenders who have had a health appraisal in TDCJ within the previous ninety (90) days are evaluated at the discretion of the facility health authority/medical director.

PROCEDURE:

I. Reception and Diagnostic Facilities (New Offenders)

A. Appraisal of new offenders consists of obtaining personal and medical baseline data; medical, mental health and dental histories; physical, dental and mental health assessments; and diagnostic procedures as needed.

B. Offenders are screened for communicable diseases and pregnancy.

C. Offenders are provided with appropriate inoculations.

D. Offenders' health records are requested from free-world physicians as needed.

E. Offenders identified as requiring further mental health assessment are interviewed, tested and evaluated by a qualified mental health professional. (See Policy E-35.1 and E-35.2)

F. The automated "Health Summary for Classification" screen is updated as needed for each new arrival. (See Health Services Policy A-08.4)

G. Medications, appointments and referrals are scheduled as appropriate, based on the results of the health appraisal.

Reference: ACA Standard 4-4362, Health Screens (Mandatory)
ACA Standard 4-4365, Health Appraisal (Mandatory)