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 re-evaluated in person at the discretion of the facility health authority/medical director. If a face-to-face health appraisal is not performed for any reason (including the offender refusing a face-to-face appraisal), all departments must perform a review of the available information in order to address the offender’s needs which can be managed outside of a face-to-face interview. This review should be performed using the departmental intake templates available in the EHR, with an indication that the offender was not present and the reason that the offender was not present.

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.
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<th>HEALTH APRAIAL OF INCOMING OFFENDERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reference:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACA Performance Standard &amp; Expected Practice 5-6A-4362, Health Screens (Mandatory)</td>
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<td>ACA Performance Standard &amp; Expected Practice 5-6A-4365, Health Appraisal (Mandatory)</td>
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