CHEMICAL AGENTS and the USE OF FORCE CONTRAINDICATION LIST

PURPOSE: To establish criteria used to determine an inmate’s eligibility to be placed on the “Use of Force Contraindications List.

POLICY: Prior to using chemical agents, where circumstances permit, security staff shall refer to the “Use of Force Contraindications List” provided by the unit medical department.

DEFINITIONS:

UOF Chemical Irritants– This applies to riot control agents (RCAs) such as oleoresin capsicum (OC), orthochiorobenzalmalononitrile (CS), and OC/CS blend formulation.

PROCEDURES:

I. For inmates whom the provider determines it is clinically indicated, an order for Restriction III 22 “No Exposure to Environmental Pollutants” will be entered in the Restrictions Module of the EHR. This may include inmates followed in a respiratory chronic care clinic as well as others for whom the medical provider deems the exposure to such agents would present a probability of adverse clinical effects. The entry of this restriction order will cause the HSM-18 screen in mainframe to reflect that restriction III 22 is active and will place the inmate on the Use of Force Contraindications List.

II. No chemical agents shall be used against inmates assigned to an area designated as a mental health treatment program, except in exigent circumstances, until mental health staff (or medical staff in their absence) has been contacted and attempted to control the situation.

III. No chemical agents shall be used against inmates assigned to an infirmary, except in exigent circumstances, until medical staff have been contacted and attempted to control the situation.

IV. The “Use of Force Contraindication List” will be generated from Crystal Reports and provided to the facility warden at least monthly by health care staff personnel.

Reference: TDCJ Use of Force Plan