GUIDELINES FOR CLIPPER SHAVE PASS

PURPOSE: To provide guidance in situations in which a medical determination contradicts shaving.

POLICY: Clipper shave passes are issued to offenders when medically indicated.

PROCEDURES:
I. Medical providers may issue a clipper shave pass to an offender when the following medical condition is present in the hair follicle:
   A. Infection and/or micro abscess formation consistent with acute pseudofolliculitis barbae.
   B. Evidence of scar tissue resulting from pseudofolliculitis barbae as determined by visual inspection of the beard area.
II. In the event pseudofolliculitis barbae is diagnosed, a vigorous program of infection control must be instituted.
III. The clipper shave pass indicates that the offender does not have to shave, but must keep his facial hair clipped to no more than one-fourth inch in length.
IV. The clipper shave pass for pseudofolliculitis barbae is valid for the duration of incarceration, unless revoked by a provider determining the condition no longer warrants the pass.
V. A temporary clipper shave pass should be issued for conditions other than pseudofolliculitis that are not thought to be permanent conditions.
VI. A list of offenders who require a clipper shave pass will be maintained by the facility health services department.
VII. The final authority as to whether a clipper shave pass is medically indicated is the medical director of the offender’s current facility of assignment.

Reference: TDCJ-ID Administrative Directive AD-03.83, TDCJ-ID Inmates Who Refuse to Groom (Shave or Cut Their Hair).