



WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Policy and Procedure #4.341 Medical Response to Sexual Assault

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Authority: Wyoming Statute(s): 25-1-104; 25-1-105 ACA Standard(s): 4-4406-R-M; NCCHC Standard(s): P-B-04; P-B-05	Effective Date: August 22, 2016 Revision/Review History: 07/30/15 07/01/14 07/01/13 07/11/12
Cross Reference of Policy: P&P #3.402, <i>Protections from Sexual Misconduct Against Offenders</i> ; P&P #3.009, <i>Evidence Handling and Storage</i> .	Summary of Revision/Review: Updates existing policy pursuant to annual review. Supersedes Existing Policy :
Approved: R.O. Lampert Robert O. Lampert, Director	
8-16-16 Date	

APPROVED FOR INMATE DISTRIBUTION

REFERENCE

1. ATTACHMENTS
2. OTHER – None Noted



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I. PURPOSE

- A. **Medical Response to Sexual Assault.** The purpose of this Policy and Procedure is to establish procedures consistent with best practice for the appropriate treatment for victims of sexual assault.

II. POLICY

- A. **Prompt and Appropriate Intervention.** It is the policy of the Wyoming Department of Corrections (WDOC) to provide prompt and appropriate health intervention to victims of sexual assault, in an effort to minimize the medical and psychological trauma associated with the assault.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. **Contract Medical Provider:** The current private medical/mental health provider contracted to operate and provide services to the WDOC inmates.
- B. **Sexual Assault:** (*For this policy only.*) A sexual act that is coercive or assaultive in nature that involves the use or threat of force. This includes any report of sexual contact.

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Referral to Community Health Care Provider

1. Victims of sexual assault shall be referred under appropriate security provisions to a community health care provider (*i.e.*, hospital, medical clinic) for treatment and gathering of forensic evidence. (ACA 4-4406-M)
 - i. WDOC contract health care providers do not gather forensic evidence from the alleged victim or perpetrator.
 - ii. Inmates have the right to refuse the gathering of forensic evidence from a community health care provider absent a court order.
 - iii. The community health care provider will also provide for testing of sexually transmitted diseases (*e.g.*, HIV, Gonorrhea, Hepatitis and other diseases) as well as any prophylactic treatment. Follow-up treatment recommendations shall also be provided. (ACA 4-4406-M)



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B. In-House Procedures. In-house procedures for responding to a sexual assault are as follows:

1. Emergency medical treatment shall be provided by on-site contract medical staff as needed.
2. WDOC staff and contract health care providers shall follow WDOC Policy and Procedure #3.402, *Protection from Sexual Misconduct against Offenders* for responding to allegations of sexual assault.
3. A mental health professional will meet with an inmate/victim of sexual assault within twenty-four (24) hours of when the assault was reported to assess the need for crisis intervention counseling and long term follow-up. (ACA 4-4406-M)
4. Health and mental healthcare staff will interact with the inmate in a neutral and non- judgmental manner. No details of the assault will be solicited by WDOC healthcare staff.
5. A report shall be made to the facility or program administrator or designee to ensure separation of the victim from his/her assailant. (ACA 4-4406-M)
6. Information may be obtained from the assailant so that appropriate medical intervention can be initiated for the victim.
7. Any evidence gathered by WDOC security staff must be at the request of law enforcement and in accordance with WDOC Policy and Procedure #3.009, *Evidence Handling and Storage*.
8. The Medical Director shall review the treatment recommendations from the community health care provider. Necessary follow-up care will be provided. (ACA 4-4406-M)

V. TRAINING POINTS

- A. Who is responsible for the gathering of forensic evidence?
- B. How soon should a mental health professional meet with an inmate/victim of sexual assault after the assault is reported?
- C. TRUE/FALSE: Inmates have the right to refuse the gathering of forensic evidence absent a court order.