



## SCDC POLICY/PROCEDURE

**NUMBER: HS-18.11**

**TITLE: MEDICAL VS. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS**

**ISSUE DATE: October 1, 2007**

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES**

**OPERATIONS MANUAL: HEALTH SERVICES**

**SUPERSEDES: HS-18.11 (January 1, 2003)**

**RELEVANT SCDC FORMS/SUPPLIES: NONE**

**ACA/CAC STANDARDS: 3-4327, 3-4369**

**STATE/FEDERAL STATUTES: NONE**

**SCDC MEDICAL DIRECTIVES:**

**PURPOSE:** To outline medical and security considerations when handling inmate health care problems.

**POLICY STATEMENT:** In order to provide *appropriate* health care delivery services to inmates, *all* matters *requiring medical judgements* will be the sole responsibility of the respective physician or dentist, however, Health Services staff will be required to comply with *all institutional* security regulations applicable to institutional operations. (3-4327)

**SPECIFIC PROCEDURES:**

1. To maintain the safety, security, and order of the institution, authorized health care providers will maintain the proper degree of security in keeping with the custody classification of their inmate patients. Health care providers will work jointly with the Warden/designee to provide health care delivery services to inmates. To this end, the health care authority will be responsible for arranging for the availability of health care services and the Warden/designee will be responsible for providing administrative support for making health care services accessible to inmates.

2. The only situations which would dictate the reduction of security will be those in which an authorized health care provider attests to the fact that a lesser degree of security (in keeping with the custody classification of the inmate patient) is essential to facilitate proper medical treatment of the inmate patient. Such decisions will be made in consultation/agreement with the Warden/designee and will be documented by the health care provider in the inmate's medical record and by the institutional staff in the institutional record and/or facility administrative files. (3-4369)

3. If conflicts regarding medical vs. security considerations exist that cannot be resolved at the institutional level, the Director for Health Services and the Division Director *of Operations* will consult, coordinate, *and document* the final resolution.

**SIGNATURE ON FILE**

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**s/Jon E. Ozmint, Director**

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