



**CORRECTIONS MEDICINE**  
**Continuity of Care**  
**ACA Standard: 4 ALDF – 4C – 04**

Effective: January 1994

Revised: May 2010, Nov 2014, Apr 2016, Apr 2019, Aug 2019

Reviewed: Aug 2001, May 2013, May 2017, Oct 2018

Policy Number:  
CM – 44

- I. **PURPOSE:** To aid in the continuous diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring of patients who present with a medical condition.
  
- II. **POLICY:** Continuity of care of patients at the Buzz Westfall Justice Center shall be assured by the maintenance of confidential medical records, discharge to community-based programs or transfer of patient to another facility. Information regarding follow-up care and community facilities are available for patients, and medical discharge planning is available contingent upon program funding resources.
  
- III. **RESPONSIBILITY:** All staff members working for Corrections Medicine program are responsible for the content of and adherence to this policy and procedure.
  
- IV. **PROCEDURE:**
  - 1. Upon admission to the facility all patients are screened by a nurse first through the initial health screen then the health assessment, per Corrections Medicine policies CM-32 and CM-33.
  
  - 2. A history and physical is completed on the first clinic visit with a provider and their medical records are reviewed, if received. Medical treatment is continued and the patient is scheduled for follow up visits with a medical provider on a regular basis until there is resolution of the condition. For patients with chronic care issues, follow up visits are scheduled on a regular schedule.
  
  - 3. Patients who are transferred to an outside facility shall be transferred with their medical records which includes a problem list, a medication list and medical records of recent care provided.
  
  - 4. If the patient has a medical problem that requires follow up with a specialist, visits are scheduled and Department of Justice Services (DJS) shall provide transportation and security services. Confidential medical records shall be placed in a sealed envelope and transported with the patient.
  
  - 5. Upon release, patients shall receive information on community resources that includes the Departments of Public Health clinics, to ensure opportunities for follow up care.

6. Patients who are on chronic care medications are educated during their medical provider visit on how to obtain prescriptions upon release. A two (2) month supply of the patient's current prescriptions may be called in to the patient's local pharmacy, so their medications continue until they schedule their follow-up care.
7. Patients who have a history of substance use disorders are offered information on resources for treatment in the community.

V. **REFERENCE:**

American Correctional Association; Performance-Based Standards for Adult Local Detention Facilities, fourth edition; 2004; Standard ALDF-4C-04