



CORRECTIONS MEDICINE
Forced Psychotropic Medications
ACA Standard: 4 ALDF – 4D – 17

Effective: May 2000

Revised: Aug 2001, Apr 2016, Apr 2017, Apr 2018, Aug 2019

Reviewed: Aug 2001, May 2013, Aug 2014, Apr 2019, July 2019

Policy Number:
CM – 67

- I. **PURPOSE:** To medically and legally provide care to patients for urgent or emergent psychiatric issues.

- II. **POLICY:** The Corrections Medicine program shall not use forced psychotropic medications at the Corrections Medicine program in the Buzz Westfall Justice Center. In psychiatric emergencies, when a patient who have been diagnosed with a mental illness is refusing medications and are at a high risk for self-harm or harm to others, arrangements shall be made for the patient to be seen at an emergency department and/or community psychiatric facility.

- III. **RESPONSIBILITY:** All staff members working in the Corrections Medicine program are responsible for the content of and adherence to this policy and procedure.

- IV. **PROCEDURE:**
 - 1. Patients who have an acute mental status change shall be transferred to the Infirmary for observation.

 - 2. Patients who refuse medical care and medications and have severe changes in behavior shall be referred to a mental health provider for consideration for transfer to a facility where medication can be given to treat severe mental health disorders.

 - 3. Corrections Medicine staff shall work with the Saint Louis County Counselor’s Office to arrange for patient transfer to an appropriate facility for care.

- V. **REFERENCES:**

American Correctional Association; Performance-Based Standards for Adult Local Detention Facilities, fourth edition; 2004; Standard 4-ALDF-4D-17

National Commission on Correctional Health Care; Standards for Health Services in Jails; 2018