

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
606**

USE OF INMATE WORKERS IN HEALTH CARE

Supersedes: (Temporary, 09/21/11); 06/17/12; (Temporary, 04/24/17)
Effective date: 05/16/17

AUTHORITY:

NRS 209.131; NRS 209.381

PURPOSE

To ensure clear and consistent regulations for the use of inmate workers in health care activities, to include mental and behavioral health.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Medical Director is responsible to ensure the administration of this regulation.

The Director or Nursing at each facility and/or institution is responsible to ensure all activities are compliant with this regulation.

All Medical Division staff are responsible for the implementation with this regulation.

606.01 USE OF INMATE WORKERS IN HEALTH CARE

1. Each Health Care Unit utilizing inmate workers shall have a written procedure on the subject in the unit procedural manual. The procedure will contain the following:

- A. A written job description on each category of inmate worker;
- B. The conditions under which inmates can perform tasks;
- C. The screening processes by which inmate health workers are selected; and
- D. Immunization requirements.
- E. Evaluation of the inmate's physical or mental issues that would prevent the inmate from engaging in the work at issue.

606.02 RESTRICTIONS

1. Inmates working in health care units will not be used to:
 - A. Perform direct patient care services.
 - B. Schedule health care appointments.
 - C. Determine access of other inmates to health care services.
 - D. Dispense or administer any type of medication or work in a pharmacy or medication room.
 - E. Handle or have access to medical records.
 - F. Handle or have access to any medical equipment or medication.
 - G. Perform clerical duties.
 - H. Manage, oversee, or supervise other inmates.

606.03 EXCEPTION TO RESTRICTIONS:

1. Inmates may render medical attention when emergency first aid may be necessary to save a life and no employee is immediately available to render first aid.
2. Inmates may be used to perform limited types of services including cleaning/janitorial, the feeding and movement (by wheelchair, stretcher, etc.) of other inmates.
 - A. Offenders under nursing staff supervision may perform duties commensurate with their level of training, and who qualify as volunteers to work in health care or in a hospice unit. Offender duties may include any or all of the following:
 - 1) Peer support and education;
 - 2) Hospice activities;
 - 3) Assisting impaired offenders on a one-on-one basis with activities of daily living; or
 - 4) Serving as a suicide companion or buddy if qualified and trained through a formal program that is part of a suicide prevention plan.
 - B. No offender or group of offenders is given control or authority over other offenders in the health care area.

606.04 TRAINING

1. Only Medical Division staff may train inmate workers concerning the inmate-worker tasks in a medical setting. Inmates are not allowed to train other inmates.

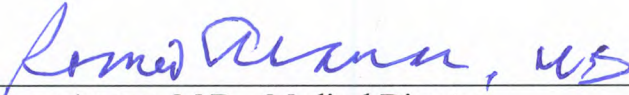
2. The Medical Division may elect to train inmates and prepare them for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and blood borne pathogen cleanup.
3. Medical Division should maintain records of such training.

APPLICABILITY

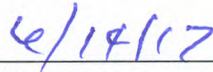
1. This regulation requires an Operational Procedure for the use of inmate workers at each Institution or facility in the Nevada Department of Corrections.
2. This regulation requires an audit.

REFERENCES

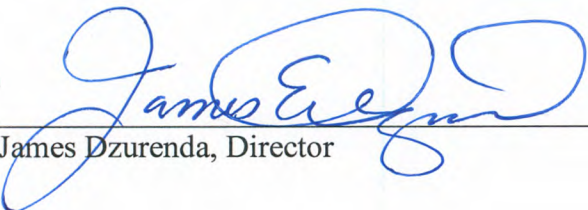
NCCHC Standards 2008, P-C-06; ACA 4-4393



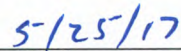
Romeo Aranas, M.D., Medical Director



Date



James Dzurenda, Director



Date