



January 04, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To: Charles Daniels, Director
Nevada Department of Corrections

Through: Ihsan Azzam, PhD, MD
Chief Medical Officer, DPBH

From: Vincent Valiente, REHS, EHS III
For Paul Shubert, Chief, DPBH

Subject: Prison Commission Meeting

As required by the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 209.382, NRS 444.330 and NRS 446.885, the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) conducts regular inspections of State Correctional Facilities. These inspections include:

- a) **Medical and Dental Services** based upon *Standards for Medical Facilities* as provided in Chapter 449 of NRS.
- b) **Nutritional Adequacy of Diet** based on *National Dietary Guidelines*. Inspections of diet adequacy take in consideration religious and/or medical dietary recommendations for individual offenders, and adjustments of dietary allowances for age, sex, and level of activity.
- c) **Sanitation, Healthfulness, Cleanliness and Safety** of various institutions and correctional facilities which include a focus on food safety practices.

DIETARY INSPECTIONS (Table 1) "Critical Violations Identified During Annual Dietary Inspections of State Prisons." Summarizes information obtained during the inmate nutritional adequacy verification process in 2020. Additionally, it summarizes critical violations identified during annual dietary inspections conducted at each state correctional facility starting from 2014 to the present time.

MEDICAL SURVEYS (Table 2) "Deficiencies Identified During Medical Surveys Conducted" Two state correctional facilities are medically inspected each year. This survey summarizes deficiencies or violations identified since the start medical inspections.

Note: The letter "X" in Table 1 and Table 2 signifies a critical violation, or a deficiency identified during inspections and surveys.

NUTRITIONAL ADEQUACY INSPECTION SUMMARY 2020 (Table 3) Summarizes information obtained during the inmate nutritional adequacy verification process in 2020. The letter “X” in Table 3 signifies compliant practices verified by direct observation, document review or an interview.

Further details of all critical violations/deficiencies identified or detected during inspections conducted at state correctional facility in 2020 are summarized below in this report.

Dietary and Sanitation Inspections

A total of six critical violations were identified during the **Dietary and Sanitation 2020 Inspections (Table 1)**. Compared to 2019, the total number of critical violations cited in 2020 decreased by seven. Of the seven inspected facilities four facilities had no critical violations. Three of the seven inspected facilities were cited for two critical violation. Three of the seven inspected facilities inspected in 2020 had repeat critical violations as follows:

- **Equipment not sanitized** (Northern Nevada Correctional Center; Southern Desert Correctional Center)
- **Presence of insects/rodents** (Northern Nevada Correctional Center)
- **Hot holding equipment at improper temperature** (Ely State Prison)

Medical Surveys

A total of five deficient practices were identified in the two medically surveyed facilities (Ely State Prison and Warm Springs Correctional Center) inspected in 2020 (**Table 2**). Three of these five deficient practices “deficiencies” were cited at the Ely State Prison; one of which “Infection Control” was a repeat deficiency from the 2017 Ely State Prison Medical Survey. Warm Springs Correctional Center was cited for two of the five deficiencies in 2020; one of which “Expired Medications” was a repeat deficiency from the 2016 Warm Springs Correctional Center Medical Survey.

Nutritional Adequacy Inspections

Seven of seven facilities were cited for **0** violations (**Table 3**).

Expanded Description of Violations* Cited in Nevada State Prisons in 2020

DIETARY INSPECTIONS (Table 1)

Four of seven facilities were cited for 0 critical violations

- **Warm Springs Correctional Center**
- **Lovelock Correctional Center**
- **High Desert State Prison**
- **Florence McClure Women’s Correctional Center**

Two of seven facilities were cited for 2 critical violations

- **Northern Nevada Correctional Center**
 1. **Presence of rodents observed**
(Live rodents and droppings were observed throughout the Culinary and Bakery).
 2. **Equipment not sanitized**
(The culinary high temperature dish machine was in disrepair and not sanitizing).

- **Ely State Prison**
 1. Handwashing sink not operational
(A handwashing sink near the dishwashing area was in disrepair).
 2. Holding equipment at improper temperature
(An electric hot and cold holding box was not at the required temperature).
- **Southern Desert Correctional Center**
 1. Equipment not sanitized
(The pot wash high temperature dish machine was in disrepair and not sanitizing).
 2. Equipment not sanitized
(The chow hall high temperature dish machine was in disrepair and not sanitizing).

MEDICAL/DENTAL INSPECTIONS (Table 2)

- **ELY STATE PRISON (ESP) inspected on (10/14/20)**
 1. Life Safety Code
(Fire rated, self-closing doors were observed held open by door chocks. The door chocks were preventing the doors from operating as designed).
 2. Infection Control
(Damage to the vinyl upholstery covering of four wheelchairs were observed).
 3. Nursing Services; Laboratory Testing
(Quality Control logs lacked documented evidence quality controls were completed for the blood glucose machines).
- **WARM SPRINGS CORRECTIONAL CENTER (WSCC) inspected on 10/22/20:**
 1. Sterilizer testing, maintenance, and training
(The “Sterilization of Medical and Dental Instruments” policy was not being following at time of survey. Biological testing of the facilities autoclave was not occurring once a week as per policy).
 2. Pharmaceutical Services
(Multiple expired medications/medical supplies/biologicals were observed at time of survey).

*The NDOC Compliance Enforcement Officer ensured corrective actions will be promptly taken by the facility for critical violations which could not be corrected by the end of each inspection.

Based on CDC guidelines, the DPBH continues to support the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC), and provide up-to-date recommendations specific to correctional facilities and detention centers in order to contain many ongoing COVID-19 widespread outbreaks among staff and inmates in several prison facilities in Nevada.

Public health inspectors from the DPBH conducted site visits to correctional facilities that continue to experience COVID-19 outbreaks, and provided several detailed step-by-step advices to help the NDOC contain outbreaks and ensure continuation of essential public services to protect the health and safety of incarcerated and detained persons, prison guards, staff, and visitors during the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic.

Recommendations provided by the DPBH to the NDOC included the following:

- Enhanced cleaning/disinfecting and hygiene practices.
- Improve ventilation in correctional facilities.
- Social distancing strategies to increase space between individuals in the facility.
- Strategies to limit and prevent COVID-19 transmission from staff and visitors.
- Infection control, including recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) and potential alternatives during PPE shortages.
- Screening for symptoms; history of exposure, and temperature check protocols for transferred/incoming incarcerated/detained individuals, staff, and visitors.
- Regular testing considerations for SARS-CoV-2.
- Medical isolation of individuals with confirmed and suspected COVID-19, and quarantine of close contacts, including considerations for cohorting when individual spaces are limited.
- Timely healthcare evaluation and testing for individuals with suspected COVID-19.
- Ongoing monitoring of symptoms and providing necessary care for individuals with confirmed and suspected COVID-19.
- Considerations for individuals (staff and inmates) who are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Timely vaccination of NDOC staff as a state public health priority.

For additional information please check the following link.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/correction-detention/index.html>

Included Attachments

1. Table 1. DIETARY INSPECTIONS – Critical Violation Identified During Annual Dietary Inspections of State Prison.
2. Table 2. MEDICAL SURVEYS – Deficiencies Identified During Medical Surveys.
3. Table 3. INMATE NUTRITIONAL ADEQUACY INSPECTION SUMMARY 2020 & EXPANDED SUMMARY.

Should you have any questions regarding the Biannual Prison Commission Meeting Update, please do not hesitate to contact me at 775-684-1061.

DIETARY INSPECTIONS (TABLE 1)

Critical Violations Identified During Annual Dietary Inspections of State Prisons

YEAR	Ely						Florence McClure						High Desert						Lovelock						Northern Nevada						Southern Desert						Warm Springs																																																	
	14'	15'	16'	17'	18'	19'	20'	14'	15'	16'	17'	18'	19'	20'	14'	15'	16'	17'	18'	19'	20'	14'	15'	16'	17'	18'	19'	20'	14'	15'	16'	17'	18'	19'	20'	14'	15'	16'	17'	18'	19'	20'	14'	15'	16'	17'	18'	19'	20'																																					
Presence of insects/rodents		X															X	X							X	X						X	X	X	X	X	X																			X									X																					
Handwash sinks not fully operational				X	X		X	X										X	X																				X																																															
Dented cans of food																		X																																																																				
Improper food temperatures																	X						X	X																X	X																																													
Refrigeration at improper temperature						X							X																													XX		X																																										
Improperly labeled/stored chemicals			X					X		XX	X			X	X													X		X																																																								
Potential for cross-contamination																													X		X								X	X																																														
Expired/spoiled food																													X		X																																																							
Equipment not sanitized	X	X	X			X																							X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	XX	XX	XX	XX																																										
Handwashing sinks not accessible																																										X																																												
Culinary staff hygienic practices cited																													X													X																																												
Hot holding equipment at improper temperature						X	X																																																																															
Person-in-Charge not knowledgeable																																																																																						
Sub Total of Critical Violations/Year:	0	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	1	3	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	2	1	0	5	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	1	5	4	2	4	2	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0																																		
Total Critical Violations Per Prison 14' - 20'	12						7						8						7						18						21						4																																																	
Total Critical Violation Cited All Prisons 14' - 20'	77																																																																																					
Total Critical Violations 2020	6																																																																																					

MEDICAL SURVEYS (TABLE 2)

Deficiencies Identified During Medical Surveys Conducted

	Ely					Florence McClure				High Desert				Lovelock					Northern Nevada					Southern Desert					Warm Springs				
	05'	10'	13'	17'	20'	07'	11'	15'	18'	08'	11'	14'	18'	02'	09'	12'	16'	19'	07'	10'	14'	17'	03'	08'	12'	15'	19'	07'	09'	13'	16'	20'	
Infection control/hazardous waste disposal	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X			X	X												
Sterilizer testing/maintenance		X					X			X	X				X		X		X				X	X				X			X		
Sterilizer training	X	X		X		X	X		X	X	X				X	X	X		X				X					X		X			
Medication (expired/storage/secured)	X	X		X		X	X			X	X		X			X	XX	X	X	X	X		X	X					X	X	X		
Medication administration issues							X				X		X																				
Physician orders							X									X																	
Emergency supplies unavailable	X						X			X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X			X	X	X									
Medications unsecured							X																										
Inmate TB testing							X									X												X					
Staff TB testing	X	X	X			X	X			X	X				X	X		X					X	X									
Staff CPR	X					X	X			X								X	X														
Inmate dental care							X				X												X				X						
Lab staff/lab licensure							X				X	X		X	X			X						X			X						
Lab test (quality control/procedures)	X				X						X	X					X											X					
Physical environment				X													X				X		X							X			
Inmate consent to treatment															X																		
Dental tool accountability															X			X								X							
24 hour nursing coverage																		X									X	X					
Staff health and safety					X				X								X									X							
Medical Records																X	XXX																
Violations Per Prison Cited/Year:	7	4	1	4	3	8	10	1	3	7	10	0	5	1	7	8	9	3	7	5	1	3	1	7	5	0	2	3	5	1	3	2	
TOTAL MEDICAL VIOLATIONS ALL PRISONS:	136																																

NUTRITIONAL ADEQUACY INSPECTION SUMMARY 2020 (TABLE 3)

NURTRITIONAL VERFICATION FOCUS POINTS 2020	ESP	FMWCC	HDSP	LCC	NNCC	SDCC	WSCC
A) The current NDOC fiscal year menu(s) in place at time of inspection	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
B) The current NDOC fiscal year menu(s) followed by facility at time of inspection	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
C) Meal served at time of inspection consistent with the current NDOC fiscal year menu(s)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
D) Spreadsheets available with portion sizes for preparing and serving meals	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
E) Pre-measure portion control utensils available and used	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
F) Daily menu substitutions documented if applicable	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
G) Religious diets available	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A
H) Internal process available for inmate to request diet	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
I) Medical oversight for inmates requiring special diets	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
J) New NDOC fiscal year 2020 menu(s) were available for inmate review	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
K) Nutritional content of the new NDOC fiscal year 2020 menu(s) were available for inmate review	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

"X" signifies compliant practices verified by observation, document review or interview

NUTRITIONAL ADEQUACY INSPECTION SUMMARY 2020 TABLE 3 expanded...

A) Current NDOC fiscal year menu(s) in place at time of inspection

Inspections conducted in 2020 revealed all seven State Prisons (LCC, NNCC, WSCC, SDCC, HDSP, ESP, and FMWCC), were following the current NDOC fiscal year menu(s) at the time of inspection.

B Current NDOC fiscal year menu(s) followed by facility at time of inspection

Inspections conducted in 2020 revealed all seven State Prisons (LCC, NNCC, WSCC, SDCC, HDSP, ESP, and FMWCC) were following the current NDOC fiscal year menu(s) at the time of inspection. Each State Prisons' food service compliance was verified by the specific menu cycle week and day against the date of inspection.

C) Meal served at time of inspection consistent with the NDOC fiscal year menu(s)

Inspections conducted in 2020 revealed all seven State Prisons (LCC, NNCC, WSCC, SDCC, HDSP, ESP, and FMWCC) were serving meals consistent with the current NDOC fiscal year menu(s). The date of inspection was used to verify the menu cycle. For example, HDSP was inspected on 10/19/20, they were following Week 4 Day 3 (Monday) of the menu cycle, which the dinner menu was verified to be Salisbury Steak and was being served by HDSP. In addition, Prison "dead man trays" were reviewed for menu compliance. Each facility holds the previous 72 hrs. of meals served called "dead man trays." Each tray's meal was verified to be consistent with the current menu.

D) Spreadsheets available with portion sizes for preparing and serving meals

Spreadsheets with portion sizes were utilized at the time of inspection for each State prison. The spreadsheets were verified onsite at each of the seven State Prisons.

E) Pre-measure portion control utensils available and used

Portion control utensils were observed at the time of inspection for each of the seven State prison.

F) Daily menu substitutions documented if applicable

Through interview with culinary staff and document review, menu substitutions, if necessary, were documented on daily meal reports and reported to NDOC administration. Further interview verified meal substitutions occur when specific menu items were able to be served due to vendor product availability.

G) Religious diets available

Six State prisons had inmates on religious/common fare diets. These diets were served through separately constructed common fare kitchens at each of the six facilities (SDCC, HDSP, ESP, FMWCC, LCC, NNCC, WSCC). Each common fare kitchen was inspected for food safety practices. No issues were observed.

H) Internal process available for inmate to request diet

During inspection, the KITE system for inmates to request diets was in place at each State prison. An inmate requesting a special diet are either assessed by medical or the facility Chaplin for common fare request.

I) Medical oversight for inmates requiring special diets

Each State prison had medical oversight by a physician for inmates requiring special diets. This was verified through diet order request in the culinary during inspection.

J) Current NDOC fiscal year menu(s) were available for inmate review

During inspection, all 7 of 7 facilities had their menu(s) available for inmate review in their respective law libraries.

K) Nutritional content of the current NDOC fiscal year menu(s) were available for inmate review

During inspection, all 7 of 7 facilities had their menu(s) nutritional content available for inmate review in their respective law libraries.