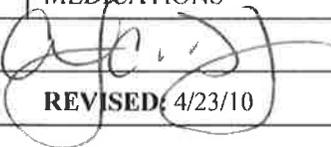


<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY OF</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STATE OF DELAWARE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NUMBER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">D-02.1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE NUMBER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 of 2</p>
	<p>RELATED NCCHC/ACA STANDARDS:</p> <p>NCCHC Standard(s) M-D-02, P-D-02, J-D-02, P-A-08, J-A-08</p>	
<p>CHAPTER: 11 BUREAU OF CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES</p>	<p>SUBJECT: TEMPERATURE SENSITIVE MEDICATIONS</p>	
<p>APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER:</p>		
<p>EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/11/09</p>	<p>REVISED: 4/23/10</p>	
<p>APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE</p>		

- I. AUTHORITY: Bureau of Correctional Healthcare Services
- II. PURPOSE: To reduce the risks associated with inmates on temperature-sensitive medications and prolonged exposure to heat.
- III. APPLICABILITY: All Department of Correction (DOC) employees and vendor staff, offenders, and any outside healthcare provider servicing DOC offenders.
- IV. DEFINITIONS: See glossary.
- V. POLICY:
 1. The psychiatrist and/or medical director responsible for the facility will identify those inmates who, by virtue of the medications they are prescribed and other relevant medical criteria, are at risk for suffering from heat-related complications.
 2. The psychiatrist and/or prescribing physician will inform the identified inmates of the potential risks of prolonged exposure to heat. Mental health and/or nursing staff will educate the inmates regarding preventative measures, symptoms to watch for and actions to be taken should symptoms develop. Education efforts will include informing inmates on tricyclic antidepressants, and other photosensitive medications, of the need to use sunscreen and wear hats during summer months.
 3. Between June 1st and September 30th of each year, the responsible Health Services Administrator will communicate on a weekly basis the names of all identified inmates, and any resulting considerations that may need to be made, including, but

SUBJECT: TEMPERATURE SENSITIVE MEDICATIONS

- not limited to, housing requirements, required levels of fluid consumption, ice, and additional showers, to the facility administrator or their designee.
4. From June 1st through September 30th of each year, correctional officers working in non-temperature controlled units where the identified inmates are housed will monitor the temperature on the housing units at least three times per day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.. A log will be maintained in which the temperature readings are recorded.
 5. The following measures are to be taken in housing units where the identified inmates are housed if a cell temperature exceeds 90 degrees Fahrenheit:
 - a. Notify the Shift Commander and nursing supervisor.
 - b. Use fans to increase ventilation and airflow.
 - c. Provide increased quantities of fluid and ice.
 - d. Allow additional showers to allow cooling.
 - e. Re-take cell temperature every hour until the temperature no longer exceeds 90 degrees.
 6. When the above measures are ineffective in reducing the cell temperature the following steps are taken:
 - a. Notify the facility administrator or designated representative.
 - b. Have inmates evaluated and monitored by a qualified health care professional, at a level determined to be clinically appropriate by the on-call physician.
 - c. Consider temporary transfer of identified inmates to a cooler area.
 7. Any inmate who shows signs of heat-related pathology (e.g., nausea, fatigue, headache, muscle cramps, dry flushed skin, alteration in consciousness) must be immediately referred to the Medical Department for evaluation and treatment.

References:

National Commission on Correctional Health Care: Standards for Health Services in Prisons, 2008.
National Commission on Correctional Health Care: Standards for Health Services in Jails, 2008.

STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION	POLICY NUMBER D-02.1	PAGE NUMBER Review Addendum
SUBJECT: TEMPERATURE SENSITIVE MEDICATIONS		

I have reviewed this policy and it is scheduled to be incorporated into the BCHS Policy D-01 Pharmaceutical Operations.



Acting BCHS Bureau Chief
Vincent F. Carr, DO, FACP


Date