POLICY OF STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION	POLICY NUMBER D-02.5	PAGE NUMBER 1 of 2
	RELATED NCCHC/ACA STANDARDS: P-D-02/4-4378, 4-4382 (ESSENTIAL)	
CHAPTER: 11 BUREAU OF CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES	SUBJECT: PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION	
APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER:		
EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/14/07	REVISED: 4/13/09	
APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE		

I. AUTHORITY: Bureau of Correctional Healthcare Services

II. PURPOSE: Offenders requiring psychotropic medication are evaluated and monitored by a psychiatrist. Mental health and nursing staff provide support to psychiatrist to insure adequate monitoring of offenders prescribed psychotropic medication.

III. APPLICABILITY: All Department of Correction employees and vendor staff, offenders, and any outside healthcare provider servicing DOC offenders.

IV. DEFINITIONS: See glossary.

V. POLICY:

1. Psychotropic medications are provided when a psychiatrist recommends this treatment strategy.

2. Psychotropic medications are used for clinical benefit only.

3. Psychiatrist routinely monitors offender's prescribed psychotropic medication.

4. Psychiatric evaluation for use of psychotropic medication will include review of medical record and referral for medical examination and diagnostic studies at a minimum, as indicated in DOC protocol for Standardized Labs for Offenders on Psychotropic's.

5. When an offender is prescribed a psychotropic medication, the psychiatrist will inform the offender of the reasons for the medication, the anticipated benefits, the probable consequences if medication is not accepted, and the possible major side effects of the medication and any alternative treatments. Informed consent for medication will be documented by completion of Informed Consent or by

documenting the discussion occurred in the Progress Notes for that specific offender encounter.

6. Offenders prescribed psychotropic medication will receive psychiatric follow up as ordered but no more than 90 days. Documentation of follow up will be maintained in the medical record. Documentation will include the following areas:

   a. Current mental status

   b. Response to treatment

   c. Continuing education of offender about mental illness and medication

   d. Referral for laboratory studies required when certain psychotropic medications are prescribed.

   e. Presence or absence of medication side effects.

7. Offenders prescribed any neuroleptic medication will be evaluated at baseline and at least bi-annually for the potential development of tardive dyskinesia.

8. Consistent with psychiatric clinical guidelines, offenders prescribed psychotropic medications with increased chance of toxicity for adverse medical problems will be monitored with appropriate laboratory testing.

References:

National Commission on Correctional Health Care: Standards for Health Services in Prisons, 2008, P-D-02

American Correctional Association: Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions, 4th Edition, 2008 Supplement. 4-4378

STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION	POLICY NUMBER D-02.5	PAGE NUMBER Review Addendum
SUBJECT: PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION		

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

Vincent F. Carr

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

6/15/15
Date