

POLICY OF STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION	POLICY NUMBER E-02.1	PAGE NUMBER 1 of 2
	RELATED NCCHC and ACA STANDARDS: 4-4368 (Mandatory); 4-4370 (Mandatory); MH-E-02 (Essential)	
CHAPTER: 11 BUREAU OF CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES	SUBJECT: MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING	
EFFECTIVE DATE: 10-31-2014	REVISED:	
APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE		

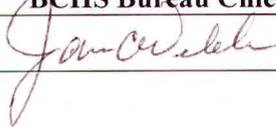
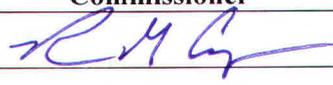
- I. AUTHORITY: Bureau of Correctional Healthcare Services (BCHS)
- II. PURPOSE: This policy is designed to promptly identify further signs of emotional, intellectual and/or behavioral problems after the medical intake.
- III. APPLICABILITY: All Department of Correction (DOC) employees and vendor staff, offenders and any outside healthcare provider servicing DOC offenders.
- IV. DEFINITIONS: See Glossary
- V. POLICY:
1. Upon affirmative responses from the medical screening including the responses from the Suicidal Behaviors Questionnaire Revised (SBQ-R), the Electronic Health Record will generate an automatic referral to a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) for a mental health screening to make further inquiries into the offender's level of emotional and behavioral stability.
 2. The mental health screening shall take place within 24 hours after the medical intake screening and documented in the Electronic Health Record (iCHRT).
 3. The Qualified Mental Health Professional shall complete a standardized instrument, the Mental Health Screening Form-III (MHSF III).
 4. The mental health screening shall include an inquiry as to the offender's current and past mental illnesses, mental health conditions, cognitive functioning, and/or special mental health requirements prior to making a referral for a comprehensive mental health evaluation.
 5. The mental health screening shall include an inquiry as to the offender's history of

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psychiatric hospitalizations, emergency room visits for psychiatric issues and/or substance use disorders, and outpatient treatment prior to any referral for a comprehensive mental health evaluation.

6. The mental health screening shall include an inquiry as to the offender's history and current use of psychotropic medications including the name of the provider and the pharmacy, if known, prior to any referral to mental health for an assessment and/or evaluation.
7. The mental health screening shall include an in-depth inquiry as to the offender's past suicide attempts, if any, and any past or present suicidal ideation prior to making any referral for a comprehensive mental health evaluation.
8. The initial screening tool shall include the QMHP's clinical observations of the offender's behaviors, appearance, orientation to time and place, ease of movement, breathing patterns, and/or skin lesions, marks, rashes, needle marks and/or other signs of potential suicidal behaviors or behavioral health indicators in need of clinical attention.
9. The QMHP shall indicate on the initial screening a referral for a Comprehensive Mental health evaluation, a substance use assessment, Psychiatric Close Observation or no other services.

Approval:

James Welch, RN, HN-BC BCHS Bureau Chief	Date	Robert Coupe Commissioner	Date
	01/05/2015		01/05/2015

References:

National Commission on Correctional Mental Health Care: Standards & Guidelines for Delivering Services, 2003. MH-E-02

American Correctional Association: Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions, 2014 Standards Supplement 4-4368; 4-4370

Cohen, Fred. 2011. Practical Guide to Correctional Mental Health and the Law: New Jersey: Civic Research Institute