| MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS<br>**POLICY DIRECTIVE** | EFFECTIVE DATE<br>12/01/2025 | NUMBER<br>04.06.160 |
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| SUBJECT<br>MEDICAL DETAILS AND SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS (MDS) | SUPERSEDES<br>04.06.160 (08/24/2020) | |
| | AUTHORITY<br>MCL 791.203; 791.204 | |
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**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Prisoners in Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) facilities shall be provided with devices, supplies, and other services necessary for medical needs, subject to restrictions necessary to maintain the safety, security, and good order of the facility.

**RELATED POLICIES:**

03.03.140 Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment of Prisoners - Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)
03.04.100 Health Services
04.06.165 Optometric Services
04.07.112 Prisoner Personal Property
05.01.140 Prisoner Placement and Transfer

**STATEWIDE OPERATING PROCEDURE:**

04.06.160 Medical Details and Special Accommodations (MDS)

**POLICY:**

DEFINITIONS

A. Medical Provider: A qualified health professional who is a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner licensed to practice in the State of Michigan.

B. Qualified Health Professional (QHP): A Physician, Psychiatrist, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, Psychologist, Social Worker, Licensed Professional Counselor, Dentist, Registered Nurse, or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) who is licensed and registered/certified by the State of Michigan to practice within the scope of their training.

GENERAL INFORMATION

C. This policy does not apply to eyeglasses, solar shields, and contact lenses that are addressed in PD 04.06.165 "Optometric Services."

D. During each health care encounter, Bureau of Health Care Services (BHCS) staff shall screen the prisoner to determine if the prisoner has a medical condition that restricts their ability to function adequately in a facility environment. This includes screening during the health appraisal conducted at reception facilities pursuant to PD 03.04.100 "Health Services."

ISSUANCE OF MDS

E. Whenever a prisoner is identified as having a medical condition that restricts their ability to function adequately, a QHP shall identify reasonable options available in a corrections setting that will meet the prisoner's special medical need. Options may include prosthetics, medical supplies, devices (e.g., wheelchairs, canes, hearing aids), medical treatment, or restrictions on activities, placement, or housing. Options also may include the issuance of non-wool blankets, extra blankets or sheets, special mattresses, or special shoes.

F. Review of the continued need for an MDS shall be conducted during the annual health care screening performed pursuant to PD 03.04.100 “Health Services” and during routine medical provider appointments. An MDS shall be reissued only after a QHP examines the prisoner and determines that the prisoner’s special

medical need still exists.

G. The prisoner shall receive a copy of their MDS at the time of issuance. A copy shall be distributed to Medical Records for entry in the Department's computerized database.

H. BHCS staff shall immediately notify housing unit staff and the Control Center by telephone whenever an MDS is issued that requires immediate attention. Telephone notification shall be logged in the appropriate logbooks and noted in the prisoner's health record (PHR).

I. If a prisoner claims to have a currently valid MDS that housing unit staff cannot verify and have not received telephone notification of its existence, housing unit staff shall contact appropriate BHCS staff for verification.

J. The responsible Medical Record staff shall review the information entered at least quarterly to verify accurate and appropriate entry.

CANCELLATION OF AN MDS

K. A currently valid MDS shall not be cancelled without approval from an appropriate Medical Provider after examination of the prisoner. Whenever an MDS is cancelled prior to its expiration date, Health Care staff shall distribute a copy to the prisoner. Appropriate Medical Records staff shall ensure proper entries are made as set forth in Paragraph G. A nurse may discontinue an MDS ordered by another nurse only after evaluation determines no medical necessity. A nurse may not discontinue an MDS ordered by a Medical Provider.

L. An employee who believes the options provided pursuant to an MDS compromise facility safety or security shall report the concern through the chain of command to the Warden. If the Warden believes facility safety or security is being compromised, the Medical Provider shall seek alternative options to meet the medical need that does not compromise facility safety or security. If alternative options are available, the Medical Provider shall cancel the current MDS and issue a new one. If alternative options are not available, the Medical Provider shall notify the Warden. Anytime an MDS is issued or cancelled, it shall be documented in the Department's computerized database.

M. An employee who observes a prisoner acting inconsistently with a medical restriction or otherwise questions the current medical need for an MDS shall report the concern to a QHP. If, after examination of the prisoner, the Medical Provider believes there is no current medical need for the MDS, they shall cancel the MDS.

N. If the concern raised pursuant to Paragraph L or M cannot be resolved by the Warden and Medical Provider, it shall be referred through the appropriate chain of command until it is resolved.

NOTE: See MSAC Guideline 0052 "Medical Devices and Durable Medical Equipment Vetting Process" for further guidance.

TRANSFER OF PRISONERS WITH AN MDS

O. A current MDS shall be valid at all facilities unless canceled in accordance with Paragraphs K through N of this policy. If a prisoner's MDS needs cannot be met at their current facility, the prisoner shall be transferred to a facility where their special medical needs can be met unless otherwise approved by the CFA Deputy Director. In accordance with PD 05.01.140 "Prisoner Placement and Transfer," it shall be noted on a prisoner's Transfer Order (CSJ-134) if the prisoner has any currently valid MDS. BHCS staff shall ensure the Exit Summary in the PHR is completed upon transfer. A transfer receiving screening shall be completed by the receiving BHCS staff and the MDS shall be reviewed. If the prisoner has an MDS for a medical device, the medical device shall transfer with the prisoner and be recorded on the Prisoner Property Receipt (CSJ-241A). If the Warden at the receiving facility has a security concern with the medical device, they shall contact the Assistant Chief Medical Officer (ACMO) through the chain of command to see if an alternate medical device can be issued to the prisoner. The prisoner shall be allowed to retain the medical device until the ACMO makes a determination if an alternate medical device can be issued.

PURCHASE OF MEDICALLY NECESSARY ITEMS

P. When an MDS requires the purchase of a prosthetic, medical supplies, an assistive device, or other medically necessary items, the item shall be paid for by the Department, except that the prisoner may choose to

purchase the item as permitted pursuant to PD 04.07.112 "Prisoner Personal Property" or receive the item as a donation from a source approved by the appropriate Deputy Director or designee. Questions regarding the appropriateness of an item shall be directed through the chain of command to the Warden or ACMO, as appropriate.

REPLACEMENT OF MEDICALLY NECESSARY ITEMS AND RESTITUTION FOR LOST/DAMAGED ITEMS

Q. Prisoners are responsible for the care of any medical equipment they are issued by the MDOC. The Durable Medical Equipment Contract (CHJ-343) shall be completed when a prisoner receives a medically necessary item. Prisoners may receive replacement medical equipment at the Department's expense if the Health Unit Manager (HUM) or designee determines the item needs to be replaced due to normal wear and tear.

R. The MDOC is not responsible for the replacement cost of medical equipment that a prisoner purchased at their own expense, or a medical item received as a donation, unless there is verification that the item was lost/damaged by MDOC staff. If there is verification that the item was lost/damaged by MDOC staff, the prisoner may request reimbursement as set forth in PD 03.02.131 "Prisoner State Administrative Board Property Claims."

S. The prisoner shall be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of damaged or lost medical equipment that was issued by the MDOC except when there is verification that the damage or loss was not the fault of the prisoner (e.g., accident on an assignment, victim of an assault, fire not set by the prisoner) or if only minor repair is necessary (e.g., replacing a screw). If the prisoner does not have sufficient funds to pay the cost of repair or replacement, the cost shall be considered an institutional debt and collected as set forth in PD 04.02.105 "Prisoner Funds." Prisoners shall be responsible for all costs related to repairing and replacing the medical item. The average replacement cost of each item shall be determined by the Health Care Administrator or designee. The restitution amount must be specifically noted on the Misconduct Report (CSJ-228) or the Notice of Intent to Conduct an Administrative Hearing (CSJ-282).

T. Any prisoner found in possession of another prisoner's medical equipment may receive a misconduct as set forth in PD 03.03.105 "Prisoner Discipline."

PROCEDURES

U. If necessary, to implement requirements set forth in this policy directive, the BHCS Administrator shall ensure that a state-wide procedure is developed or updated.

AUDIT ELEMENTS

V. A Primary Audit Elements List has been developed to assist Wardens and Health Unit Managers with self-audit of this policy pursuant to PD 01.05.100 "Self-Audits."

APPROVED: HEW 10/16/2025