




U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons

Health Services Division

Washington, D.C. 20534

August 18, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

FROM:  M. D. Smith, Assistant Director
Health Services Division

SUBJECT: Waiver to Health Services Policy

This is a national policy waiver to Health Services Program Statement 6031.04, Patient Care, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. With the issuance of the COVID-19 Operational Matrix and Guidance on August 16, 2021, this waiver will rescind and replace previously issued waivers dated June 30, 2021, and July 2, 2021. This waiver provides extension of the timeframes required to complete admission and orientation medical examinations as well as chronic care clinic examinations.

6031.04 Patient Care Program Statement states:

15. **Chronic Care Clinics**

Chronic Care Clinics (CCCs) are a means for inmates with ongoing medical needs to be tracked and seen by a health care provider at clinically appropriate intervals. A physician will see all inmates assigned to a CCC every 12 months, or more often if clinically indicated.

18. **Intake Screening**

Initially examine all new arrivals from other institutions that have a CCC assignment, within 14 days of arrival, to establish a treatment plan and follow-up intervals appropriate for the inmate's medical needs.

19a. **Short-Term Examination**

For individuals in predictably short-term custody (FDCs/MCCs/ MDCs/Jails), an initial screening physical examination to determine medical needs will be done within 14 days of admission on the appropriate

physical examination form.

19b. Long-Term Examination

For individuals in predictably long-term incarceration (sentenced/designated), an initial complete physical examination to determine medical needs will be done within 14 days of admission on the appropriate examination forms.

Response to requests for policy waiver:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the required medical response, the following waivers are granted to allow for training and implementation of new COVID-19 Operational Matrix and Guidance:

- Required annual chronic care visits have an additional 30 days beyond their annual "due" date, to complete the examinations for inmates who are not fully vaccinated.
- 14 day admission and orientation examinations and 14 day Chronic Care Clinic have 21 days to complete the examinations for inmates who are not fully vaccinated.

Response to requests for policy waiver:

This national policy waiver is granted as noted above. This waiver is effective until December 31, 2021.

cc: Ken Hyle, Assistant Director/General Counsel, OGC
Louis Milusnic, Assistant Director, PRD

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Elizabete Stahl, Medical Director, HSD
Jeffery D. Allen, Medical Director, HSD

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Regional Medical Directors
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