

## CERTIFIED CORRECTIONAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL – REGISTERED NURSE CONTENT OUTLINE

### I. Clinical Management of Inmate-patients (45-50%)

- A. Screening and Physical Examination
  - 1. Conduct oral/dental screening using techniques consistent with dental training
  - 2. Provide screening and approval for inmate workers including PPD screening
  - 3. Conduct, or review data collected during, intake/receiving screening upon inmate's admission to correctional system
- B. Triage
  - 1. Triage complaints to address mental, dental and medical health concerns in a timely manner, using referrals as indicated
- C. Sick Call
  - 1. Conduct routine sick call and clinics
- D. Referrals, Transfers and Continuity of Care
  - 1. Provide follow-up care after off-site appointments (e.g., hospitalization, emergency room, specialty clinics, special procedures)
  - 2. Arrange referrals for special assistive services provided by community agencies
  - 3. Ensure inmate-patient is seen for evaluation and treatment upon return from an off-site provider
  - 4. Coordinate on-site and off-site chronic care and specialty care (e.g., dialysis, chemotherapy, prenatal care, post-partum care, mental health, oral surgery, dental)
  - 5. Facilitate communication among health care agencies to ensure continuity of care
  - 6. Provide for continuity of care from the time of entry into the system, through transfers to other institutions, to release from custody
- E. Management of Care
  - 1. Assessment, Data Collection and Evaluation
    - a. Perform and evaluate diagnostic testing
    - b. Perform comprehensive physical assessment during intake
    - c. Monitor psychological and physiological response to incarceration
    - d. Perform inmate-patient safety assessment (e.g., sensory impairment, potential for falls, level of mobility, skin integrity)
    - e. Collect specimens for diagnostic testing
    - f. Interview inmate-patient to collect medical, mental health, and dental information during intake or patient encounters
    - g. Perform required screenings for school-age juveniles
    - h. Monitor behavioral changes
    - i. Perform assessments consistent with established protocols and national clinical guidelines
  - 2. Treatment and Interventions
    - a. Manage pain
    - b. Manage the nursing care of inmate-patients who have conditions (e.g., pregnancy, infection, HIV, tuberculosis, hepatitis, sexually transmitted disease, heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, mental illness) that have higher incidence within correctional environment
    - c. Manage situations in which the inmate-patient's health goals are unrelated to actual or potential health problems

- d. Identify suicidal behavior and follow protocol to ensure inmate-patient safety
- e. Assist with end-of-life decision making
- f. Ensure correct use of equipment in performing procedures and treatments
- g. Provide support to inmate-patient in coping with life changes/transitions (e.g., incarceration, sentencing, charges)
- h. Provide referral and support for inmate-patients with nonsubstance-related dependencies (e.g., gambling, sexual addiction, pornography)
- i. Provide care to the inmate-patient with an alteration in nutritional intake (e.g., adjust diet, change delivery to include method, time and food preferences)
- j. Respond to emergent health care needs
- k. Provide care to inmate-patients in drug and alcohol dependency programs
- l. Provide hospice and palliative care
- m. Perform treatments and interventions consistent with established protocols and national clinical guidelines
- n. Integrate advance directives into plan of care
- o. Provide care that meets the special needs of the adolescent juvenile aged 13 to 18 years
- p. Participate in medication distribution (e.g., administration, refusals, keep-on-person, use of protocols and standing orders)
- q. Incorporate inmate-patient's cultural and spiritual practices when providing care
- 3. Health Record Maintenance
  - a. Maintain appropriate records concerning delivery of health care
- F. Care Setting/Housing Assignment
  - 1. Ensure appropriate housing/bed assignment
  - 2. Provide care in a variety of settings
- G. Therapeutic Communication and Behavior Management
  - 1. Use therapeutic communication techniques to provide support to inmate-patients
  - 2. Incorporate behavioral management techniques (e.g., positive reinforcement, setting limits)
  - 3. Establish and maintain effective working relationships with inmate-patient and/or family
  - 4. Provide a therapeutic environment for inmate-patients with emotional or behavioral issues
- H. Response to Emergency Situations
  - 1. Implement emergency response plans during disasters and mass casualties (e.g., fire, riot, foodborne illness, infectious disease)
  - 2. Respond to man-down (i.e., single person) emergency situations and provide emergency treatment
  - 3. Provide medical support during security-related activities (e.g., cell extractions, cell searches)
  - 4. Participate in disaster and man-down drills

## II. Promotion of Safe and Secure Health Care Environment (5-10%)

- A. Environmental Safety and Public Health
  - 1. Infection control practices
    - a. Provide information on infection control measures to inmates and staff
    - b. Apply principles of infection control (e.g., hand hygiene, isolation, aseptic/sterile technique, standard precautions)

2. Sharps and hazardous materials
  - a. Maintain secure storage and inventories of items subject to abuse (e.g., syringes, needles, scissors, dental tools)
  - b. Surveillance (monitoring and reporting)
  - c. Collect and analyze data to monitor, act upon and report public health information
- B. Safety and Security Policies and Procedures
  1. Follow facility security procedures
  2. Maintain safety of self and others in the correctional environment
  3. Apply principles of professionalism and managing boundaries in relationships with inmate-patients
  4. Follow procedures for environmental safety and safety inspections

### III. Health Promotion and Maintenance (8-12%)

- A. Assessment of Risk Factors
  1. Assess inmate-patient's risk for abuse, neglect and assault
  2. Assess inmate-patient for drug or alcohol dependencies, withdrawal and toxicities
  3. Conduct inspections of the facility for safety and environmental health
- B. Health Education
  1. Provide inmate-patient and/or family with information about advance directives
  2. Educate inmate-patient about prevention of high-risk health behaviors (e.g., smoking cessation, safe sexual practice)
  3. Educate inmate-patient and/or family about health maintenance recommendations (e.g., physician visits, immunizations, screening exams, oral hygiene, wellness promotion)
  4. Assess inmate-patient's readiness to learn, learning preferences and barriers to learning
  5. Educate inmate-patient and/or family about treatments and procedures
  6. Educate inmate-patient and/or family about disease prevention, care and rehabilitation
- C. Discharge Planning
- D. Focus discharge planning on coordination of needed health services to promote successful transition to community

### IV. Professional Role and Responsibilities (30-35%)

- A. Ethical and Legal
  1. Inmate-patient Rights
    - a. Ensure inmate-patient's rights are met (e.g., refuse treatment, confidentiality, informed consent)
    - b. Maintain inmate-patient confidentiality/privacy
    - c. Educate inmate-patient and/or family about patient's rights and responsibilities
    - d. Ensure that inmate-patient has provided informed consent for treatment
    - e. Respond to concerns (from cell mate, visitor, family, lawyer, etc.) regarding inmate-patient health and care
    - f. Identify and address barriers to access to care (e.g., combative behavior, high profile, protective custody)
    - g. Investigate and address patient grievances
  2. Inmate-patient Advocacy
    - a. Act as patient advocate
  3. Standards, Regulatory Guidelines and Nurse Practice Act

- a. Comply with federal, state and institutional policy regarding the use of restraints and safety devices
  - b. Recommend and write policy and procedure changes to improve medical services
  - c. Apply correctional health care accreditation standards to the care of the inmate-patient
  - d. Comply with national standards regarding nurse participation in execution
  - e. Ensure that nursing care quality meets measurable community standards
  - f. Comply with federal and state legal protections afforded inmate-patients with mental health problems
  - g. Comply with federal and state regulations for reporting certain conditions (e.g., abuse, neglect, communicable disease, gunshot wound, dog bite)
  - h. Comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and all reporting requirements
  - i. Comply with laws and standards regarding the nurse's role in the collection of forensic information
  - j. Comply with laws and standards governing involuntary medication administration and involuntary hospitalization
  - k. Practice nursing in accordance with standard procedures and protocols
  - l. Practice nursing in accordance with state nurse practice act and applicable laws
- B. Management and Leadership
- 1. Collaboration
    - a. Foster collaborative relationships with correctional staff
    - b. Provide correctional staff with information regarding the health status of an inmate-patient, as appropriate
    - c. Consult with other health care providers regarding inmate-patient care
    - d. Apply principles of conflict resolution as needed when working with health care and nonhealth care staff
  - 2. Professional Development
    - a. Participate in peer review, personnel performance review and periodic competency assessment for performance improvement process
    - b. Participate in continuous quality improvement processes (CQI)
    - c. Assume responsibility and accountability for professional development
    - d. Participate in educating health care staff
  - 3. Health Education for Nonclinical Staff
    - a. Participate in educating nonclinical staff
  - 4. Supervision
    - a. Supervise health care staff, volunteers and others
- C. Research
- 1. Participation in research
    - a. Identify research opportunities and initiate or participate in research activities in the correctional health setting
  - 2. Research process
    - a. Apply principles of research methodology and human subject protection
  - 3. Research utilization
    - a. Ensure evidence-based practice through the incorporation of relevant research findings