Jail Health Care Inspections and Quality of Care

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Educational Objectives

• Discuss jail health programs and effect on communities
• Introduce continuous quality improvement in jail health care
• Explore jail health standards that are commonly “missed”
• Explore standards related to transition to community care
• Describe how health officers can support quality care in jails
Topics for Today

- Part I  Legal Context and Risk Management
- Part II  NCCHC Accreditation
- Part III  The *Standards*
- Part IV  Transition From Jail to Community
- Part V  Responsibilities of the RHA and Jail Physician
- Part VI  Resources for Help
Introduction
Who is NCCHC?

- A 501 (c)(3) whose sole mission is to improve the health care delivery system in jails, prisons, and juvenile detention and confinement facilities.
- As the AMA jail project, we worked in the early 1970s to develop standards and an auditing tool.
- Today, our board has 37 professional organizations representing the fields of criminal justice, law, and health.
NCCHC Supporting Organizations

- Academy of Correctional Health Professionals
- American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Academy of Physician Assistants
- American Academy of Psychiatry & the Law
- American Association of Public Health Physicians
- American Bar Association
- American College of Emergency Physicians
- American College of Healthcare Executives
- American College of Neuropsychiatrists
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American College of Physicians
- American Correctional Health Services Association
- American Counseling Association
- American Dental Association
- American Dietetic Association
- American Health Information Management Association
- American Jail Association
- American Medical Association
- American Nurses Association
- American Osteopathic Association
- American Pharmacists Association
- American Psychiatric Association
- American Psychological Association
- American Public Health Association
- American Society of Addiction Medicine
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
- International Association for Correctional and Forensic Psychology
- National Association of Counties
- National Association of County and City Health Officials
- National Association of Social Workers
- National District Attorneys Association
- National Juvenile Detention Association
- National Medical Association
- National Sheriffs' Association
- Society for Adolescent Medicine
- Society of Correctional Physicians
NCCHC Today

• Accredits many hundreds of correctional facilities across the nation,
• Certifies thousands of correctional health professionals
• The largest provider of correctional health care education in the world
Part I - Legal Context and Risk Management
Major Court Decisions

• Supreme Court rule that prisoners have a right to be free of “deliberate indifference to their serious health care needs”
  • US Supreme Court: 1976 *Estelle v. Gamble*

• “We see no underlying distinction between the right to medical care for physical ills and its psychological counterpart.”
  • 4th Circuit Court: 1979 *Bowring v. Godwin*

• It extended the Estelle decision to mental health care.
Deliberate Indifference

- Conscious or reckless disregard of the consequences of one’s acts or omissions
- Professional knows of and disregards an excessive risk to an inmate’s health or safety
Risk Management Assessment

- Three key processes:
  - Identify exposure to risk
  - Analyze the risk
  - Prioritize risk
    • meaning measure the likelihood and severity of impact
Part II - NCCHC Accreditation
Promotes and Documents an Efficient, Well-Managed System of Health Care Delivery
Lends Prestige to Facility and Increases Staff Morale
Protects Health of Staff, Public and Inmates
Minimizes Occurrences of Adverse Events
Part III - The Standards
Tools of Trade

• 2014 Standards for Heath Services in Jails
• 2014 Standards for Health Services in Prisons
• 2015 Standards for Health Services in Juvenile Detention and Confinement Facilities
• 2015 Standards for Mental Health Services in Correctional Facilities
• 2004 Standards for Opioid Treatment Programs in Correctional Facilities
Standard Specifics
Commonly “Missed” Standards

- Data from >100 NCCHC accreditation surveys
- 685 misses total
- One or more compliance indicators were problematic
- Reasons:
  - Misinterpretation
  - Partial Compliance
  - Omission
- Discuss either all CIs or select few
Part V - Responsibilities of the RHA and Jail Physician
Part VI – Resources for Help
Resources for Help

- Standards Manuals
- Guidance for Disease Management
- Position Statements
- CorrectCare
- Standards Q&A and Spotlight on the Standards
- NCCHC Resources, Inc.
- NCCHC Accreditation Staff
Resources for Help

www.ncchc.org/guidance

Guidance for Disease Management

NCCHC’s guidance documents help correctional health professionals to effectively manage diseases commonly found in jails, prisons and juvenile confinement facilities.

The documents are adapted for the correctional setting from nationally accepted clinical guidelines issued by organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, the American Diabetes Association, the National Heart,
Resources for Help

www.ncchc.org/position-statements

Position Statements

The National Commission's position statements serve to augment the Standards or express NCCHC's expert opinion on important issues that are not addressed in the Standards.

Along with the Standards, these position statements may assist correctional facilities in designing policies and procedures on such matters.
## Resources for Help

www.ncchc.org/position-statements

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Resources for Help

www.ncchc.org/correctcare-archive
Resources for Help

www.ncchc.org/q-a
Resources for Help

www.ncchc.org/spotlight-on-the-standards
Resources for Help

- Technical Assistance
  - Specific Standards
  - Evaluation of compliance
  - Education
Professional Certification
Resources for Help

National Commission on Correctional Health Care

www.ncchc.org
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http://www.ncchc.org/NCCHC-Resources

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