



**CORRECTIONS MEDICINE**  
**Hospital and Specialty Ambulatory Care**  
**ACA Standard: 4 ALDF – 4C – 40**

Effective: January 1994

Revised: June 2015, July 2019

Reviewed: Aug 2001, May 2013, Apr 2017, Apr 2018, Jan 2019

Policy Number:  
CM 31

- I. **PURPOSE:** To provide in-patient hospital and specialty care for medical and psychiatric services that cannot be provided for in the Buzz Westfall Justice Center.
- II. **POLICY:** Patients are referred for in-patient hospitalization or outpatient specialty care when medical or psychiatric illness exceeds the service or expertise available at the Buzz Westfall Justice Center.
- III. **RESPONSIBILITY:** All Corrections Medicine Staff are responsible for the content of this policy and procedure as well as adherence to the policy.
- IV. **PROCEDURE:**
  - 1. Specialty Ambulatory Care
    - a. Medical consultations are sometimes required for patients whose needs exceed the scope of care available at the Buzz Westfall Justice Center. In those instances, the provider who made the determination of need shall issue an order specifying what services are necessary to provide medical care to the patient for this specific issue.
    - b. The provider shall examine the patient before ordering a referral.
    - c. All referrals are reviewed amongst the providers to discuss all options for care prior to scheduling the specialty visit.
      - 1. All referrals for dialysis, methadone clinic, and high-risk OB care are exempt from the review process.
    - d. Urgency of the referral must be included in the order for referral.
      - 1. Routine: next available appointment with the outside provider
      - 2. Urgent: within 2 weeks
      - 3. STAT: within 1 week
    - e. All patients sent to an outside specialist shall be transported with up-to-date medical records in a sealed envelope to ensure continuity of care is communicated to the receiving physician.
    - f. Patients who are referred for specialty care are transported by the Department of Justice Services (DJS) staff.
  - 2. Hospital Care
    - a. Patients that require hospital care are escorted to the receiving facility by DJS security officers. Patients may be transported by ambulance or DJS transportation officers depending on the medical need.

- b. DJS corrections officers provide security while the patient is hospitalized.
- c. The Corrections Medicine staff shall contact the hospital daily regarding the patient's progress to coordinate continuity of care upon the patient's release.
- d. Corrections Medicine shall contact a provider upon the patient's return from the hospital for orders and housing placement.

V. **REFERENCE:**

National Commission on Correctional Health Care; Standards for Health Services in Jails; 2018;  
Standard J-D-05