

JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES

«Facility»

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Subject: INFECTION CONTROL PROGRAM	Original Issue Date: 1/31/03	Policy # G-103
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Departments Consulted: LAC+USC Department of Epidemiology	Approved By: (Signature on File) Medical Director (Signature on File) Nursing Director	Approved by: (Signature on File) Health Services Administrator

PURPOSE

To define Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) policy as it pertains to minimizing the incidence of infectious and communicable diseases among youths.

POLICY

JCHS will sponsor an effective, interdepartmental infection control program.

PROCEDURE

1. JCHS will maintain a written Infection Control Plan, which will:
 - Include an exposure control plan
 - Be considerate of needs and resources of each facility
 - Be approved by the responsible physician
 - Be reviewed and updated annually
 - Describe actions to be taken to eliminate or minimize exposures to pathogens
 - Describe actions to be taken to manage suspected or identified infectious diseases among youth,
 - Contain a Tuberculosis control plan that is consistent with current published guidelines from the CDC, and
 - Include description of a needle stick prevention program requiring functional accessible and visible sharps disposal containers, and the use of needle safety devices such as self-sheathing needles or needless systems.
2. Appropriate Medical, Dental, and Laboratory equipment and instruments are decontaminated and appropriately cleaned. Facility-specific equipment shall be identified in a facility specific Infection Control Manual with sterilizer data.
3. Sharps and bio hazardous wastes are disposed of properly.
4. Surveillance for detection of serious infectious and communicable disease occurs.
5. Immunizations to prevent disease are provided when appropriate.
6. Infected patients receive medically indicated care.

DISTRIBUTION: Juvenile Court Health Services Policy and Procedure Manual

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	Health Services Administrator's Initials: (Initials on File)	

7. Youths with contagious disease are medically isolated with proper isolation techniques.
 - Hand washing upon entering and exiting patient's room; proper handling and disposal of infectious materials; proper isolation methods; instructions to the youth and to visitors; proper handling of food, utensils, and dishes; proper handling of patient care equipment; cleaning and disinfecting isolation and other medical areas.
 - Youth in medical isolation are checked frequently for changes in physical and mental status.
 - Medical isolation rooms at each facility have a separate toilet, hand-washing facility, soap dispenser, single service towels, and appropriate accommodations for showering.
8. Standard Precautions are always used by healthcare practitioners to minimize the risk of exposure to blood and body fluids of infected patients.
9. Sanitation workers are trained in appropriate methods for handling and disposing of biohazardous materials and spills.
10. Youths with active TB are referred to a facility offering a higher level of care, such as LAC+USC Medical Center, in consultation with the LAC+USC Medical Center Nurse Epidemiologist.
11. All youth released with communicable or infectious diseases are provided with community referrals when appropriate.
12. All reports required by Local, State, and Federal laws are completed and submitted.
13. JCHS will support an Infection Control Committee, which will:
 - Have representation from various departments of Probation and JCHS.
 - Meet at least quarterly
 - Receive consultation from a nurse epidemiologist
 - Oversee infection control practices, and
 - Be chaired by the JCHS Medical Director.

AUTHORITY

California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Article 8, Section 1410

REFERENCE

NCCHC Standard Y- B-01