

JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES

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| Subject: MEDICAL AUTONOMY | | Original Issue Date: 4/01/96 | Policy # A-203 |
| | | Supersedes: 1/3/13 | Effective Date: 6/1/17 |
| Departments Consulted: | Approved By: (Signature on File) Health Services Administrator (Signature on File) Nursing Director | Approved by: (Signature on File) Medical Director | |

PURPOSE

To delineate the medical autonomy of Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS).

DEFINITIONS

Qualified healthcare provider: persons by virtue of their education, credentials, and experience are permitted by law to evaluate and care for patients. This includes physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, dentists, optometrists, and mental health clinicians.

POLICY

All clinical decisions and actions regarding healthcare provided are the sole responsibility of a JCHS qualified healthcare provider without interference from other personnel or departments.

PROCEDURE

- When the qualified healthcare provider believes that court orders, security issues, or other outside matters are not in the best interest of the patient, the matter will be referred to the JCHS Medical Director, Probation Department Bureau Chief, or to the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court for resolution, as appropriate.
- The Probation facility administrator provides the support for the accessibility of health services to youth. The Department of Probation provides the physical resources for the delivery of health care in a safe and professional manner.
- JCHS and Probation staff collaborate to address non-medical considerations that may affect clinical decisions and to ensure that operational difficulties associated with compliance with clinical decisions are addressed.
- JCHS qualified healthcare providers may write an information report about an incident, but shall not be involved in writing disciplinary reports about a youth. If a healthcare provider were to be involved in writing disciplinary reports, it can potentially create a barrier to access to care.
- JCHS employees are subject to the same security regulations as other facility employees.

DISTRIBUTION: Juvenile Court Health Services Policy and Procedure Manual

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| | Medical Director's Initials: (Initials on File) | |

AUTHORITY

California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Article 8, Section 1401

REFERENCE

NCCHC Standard Y-A-03
Department of Health Services and Department of Probation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – 2012

REVIEW DATES

January 3, 2013; June 1, 2017

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