

HEALTH SERVICES POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL

North Carolina Department Of Correction
Division Of Prisons

SECTION: Assessment of Patient

POLICY # A-3

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SUBJECT: Lab Services

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 2002

SUPERCEDES DATE: June 1996

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines on availability of lab services.

POLICY

Each Diagnostic Center and skilled nursing infirmary/facility shall have laboratory services sufficient to accomplish those screening tests required for the in-take physical assessment.

Inpatient facilities will provide laboratory services to their facilities either through in-house capability or through additional services acquired under contractual arrangements. Resources for laboratory studies and services required to support the level of care provided shall be maintained.

PROCEDURES

1. The Standard Operational Procedure for health care services at each facility shall include written procedures for accessing laboratory services. This will include the use of county public health clinics, commercial laboratories, local clinics, and hospitals under a fee for service or contractual arrangement.
2. A list of the laboratory and diagnostic services and hours of availability shall be maintained.
3. When separate laboratory or diagnostic services are provided on site, a written procedure for such services is to be incorporated into the SOP manual and reviewed at least annually to insure it is kept current by the responsible health authority.



5/30/02

Paula Y. Smith, MD, Director of Health Services

Date

SOR: Deputy Medical Director