

HEALTH SERVICES POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL

North Carolina Department Of Correction
Division Of Prisons

SECTION: Personnel

POLICY # P II-4

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SUBJECT: Health Care Worker's Infected with HIV
and/or HBV

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 2007
SUPERCEDES DATE: November 2002

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for reporting to the State Health Director.

POLICY

North Carolina Communicable Disease Rules 10A NCAC 41A Section .0207 require Health care workers who perform Surgical, Obstetrical, or Dental procedures and who know they are infected with Hepatitis B or HIV to notify the State Health Director, therefore, the Department of Correction will comply.

This policy is not intended to mandate testing of health care employees for HIV and Hepatitis B. Employees are required to report their HIV or Hepatitis B status to the State Health Director only if they know they are infected and if they perform any surgical, obstetrical, or dental procedure as defined in this policy

Definitions

"Surgical or obstetrical procedures" means: vaginal deliveries or surgical entry into tissue, cavities, or organs. The term does not include phlebotomy; administration of intramuscular, intradermal, or subcutaneous injections; needle biopsies; needle aspirations; lumbar punctures; angiographic procedures; endoscopic and bronchoscopic procedures; or placing or maintaining peripheral or central intravascular lines.

"Dental procedure" means: any dental procedure involving manipulation, cutting, or removal of oral or perioral tissues, including tooth structure during which bleeding occurs or the potential for bleeding exist. The term does not include the brushing of teeth.

PROCEDURE

- A. Any health care employee who performs surgical, obstetrical, or dental procedures as defined in this policy and who knows they are infected with HIV or Hepatitis B shall notify the State Health Director. Any health care employee who assists in the above defined procedures in a manner that may result in exposure of the patient to the employee's blood and who knows they are infected with HIV or Hepatitis B shall notify the State Health Director. The notification shall be made in writing to the State Health Director, 1915 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1915.
- B. It is the responsibility of the State Health Director to investigate the practice of the infected health care employee and assess the risk of transmission to patients. After appropriate investigation, it is the State Health Director's responsibility to make any recommendations or place any restrictions on the practice of the health care worker. It is also the responsibility of the State Health Director to protect the confidentiality of the health care worker and disclose the identity and infection status only when disclosure is essential to conduct the investigation and assessment of the health care worker's practice.



10/10/07

Paula Y. Smith, MD, Director of Health Services

Date

SOR: Infection Control Nurse

Reference: NC Communicable Disease Rule 10A NCAC 41A.0207