



Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

Standard Operating Procedure

Title: Fees for Inmate Medical Services	No: F-308
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Policy F-308 FEES FOR INMATE MEDICAL SERVICES

General: The Cumberland County Jail will provide each inmate with the opportunity for medical, dental, and mental health services. Per 30 A, MRSA 1561, Section 1, a reimbursement for certain non-referral medical, dental services and medication, provided to inmates may be levied against an inmate's personal money account. Specific services, listed in Procedure C, paragraph 2, will not require a reimbursement.

All inmates will receive the same level of medical, dental, and mental health care regardless of their ability to pay. If an inmate has sufficient funds to cover the reimbursement, funds will be deducted from their personal money account. If an inmate does not have the funds to cover the reimbursement, their personal money account will be debited as money is placed into the account.

Inmates will have access to designated over-the-counter drugs that will be offered through the commissary and are allowed to keep such items in their cells for personal use.

The medical staff will determine the severity of each medical request and designate those requests which are "Emergency" as non-chargeable. The medical staff will also determine the level of charges assigned, per the fee schedules cited in this procedure.

The purpose of a fee for medical services is to:

- maintain a professional level of health care;
- allow medical staff to devote quality time to inmates;
- promote efficient use of available medical resources;
- contribute to the rehabilitation of inmates and teach inmates personal responsibility;
- keep facility costs at a reasonable level;
- minimize frivolous "Sick Call" requests.



To help achieve these goals, a health services fee will be established to help control some costs through inmate reimbursement, while ensuring that health care is provided regardless of the inmate’s ability to pay.

PROCEDURE A Inmate Notification

Inmates will be notified of the health services fee by:

- posted signs at intake and in pod day rooms;
- a statement on the inmate medical request form; and,
- orally, by medical staff, at the time of intake and initial classification.

PROCEDURE B Access to Health Care

1. All inmates will have the same access to health care regardless of their ability to contribute to the cost of the care they receive.
2. An “Inmate Medical Request” form must be completed by any inmate requesting medical services.
 - Routine inmate medical requests must be completed and deposited in pod mail box by 1200 hrs. on the day prior to “Sick Call”.
 - Medical staff are available for emergencies at all times.
3. Note: Inmates who bypass the sick-call protocol and have officers bring them to medical will still be charged the sick call fee if seen in medical. Non urgent issues will be sent back to the housing unit to follow sick call procedure.

PROCEDURE C Inmate Charges

1. Inmate money account will be charged for:

- Doctor visit-----	\$5.00
- Sick Call (Nurse visit) -----	\$5.00
- Refusal of Medical Appointment-----	\$5.00
- Over the counter Medications (Per Script)-----	\$3.00
- Reading Glasses-----	\$5.00
- Licensed Social Worker-----	\$5.00
- Mental Health Practitioner-----	\$5.00
- Refusal of Mental Health Appointment-----	\$5.00
- Dentist-----	\$5.00
- Filling (Per Tooth)-----	\$5.00
- Extractions (Per Tooth-----	\$5.00
- Refusal of Dental Appointment-----	\$5.00
-Inmate Cancelled Offsite Appointment-----	\$5.00

2. Inmates will not be charged for:

- Medication distribution (by nursing staff)
- Directed evaluation/re-evaluation (by corrections or medical staff)
- Intake screening
- Medication Injections

- Nurse Screening (worker screen)
- Intake Physical Exam
- X-Ray exams*

* When ordered as part of a physical, medication monitoring, or acute care visit.

- Serious Mental Illness
- Developmental Disability
- Medical/Dental Emergencies
- Prenatal Care
- TB Screening*
- Laboratory test*
- Health Education
- Costs while a hospital in-patient

3. Federal Inmates

- Outside medical/dental U.S. Marshal will continue to reimburse
- Transportation costs U. S. Marshal will reimburse

4. Debiting the inmate's account:

- (a) Check inmate's name against the daily headcount sheet.
- (b) Determine whether inmate is I.C.E., (if an ICE inmate, they will not be charged)
- (c) Access the inmate's account in the computer (Keefe system)

5. Any disputed charges may be appealed through the grievance process.

6. Inmates who have medical insurance, workers' compensation claims, or veterans' benefits will have appropriate charges (or arrangements) made toward those programs to pay for outside medical services.

7. Inmates in the Work Release Program will be required to make payments as provided by existing policy F-351.

PROCEDURE D Medication Control

1. Certain prescription medication will be allowed for inmates to "Self Administer". Generally these will be available in blister packs and will be accompanied by a medical slip and instructions.
2. Inventory will be checked at irregular times. When the medication remaining does not match the instructions (i.e. dosage and dates) formal discipline will be taken; Violation of major rule B-15
3. As in the past misuse of medication will not be tolerated. An inmate found with unauthorized medication will be subject to formal discipline.
4. Medications authorized for self administration will be of a non-habit forming nature and will pose no health risk e.g. antibiotics. The Medical Department will continue to dispense any and all "Controlled Substances"
5. The feasibility of inmates self medicating in areas such as Administrative Segregation, Disciplinary Segregation or suicidal inmates will be considered on a case by case basis.

