



MONTANA STATE PRISON OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE

Procedure:	MSP HS B-07.0 COMMUNICATION ON PATIENT HEALTH NEEDS	
Effective Date:	11/01/2010	Page 1 of 2
Revision Date(s):	10/01/2020; 06/30/2026	
Public Safety Chief Signature:	/s/ John Schaffer, Public Safety Chief	
Medical Director Signature:	/s/ Dr. Paul Rees, MD	
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I. PURPOSE

Ensure health care staff communicate with custody staff regarding any significant health needs that should be considered in decisions regarding an inmate's housing, work, programming, and disciplinary management in order to preserve the health and safety of the inmate, other inmates, and staff.

II. DEFINITIONS (see Glossary)

III. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Requirements

1. Health care staff will notify facility custody or administrative staff regarding inmates who require accommodations based on:
 - a. chronic illness;
 - b. dialysis;
 - c. adolescents in adult facilities;
 - d. communicable diseases;
 - e. physical disability;
 - f. terminal illness;
 - g. unique medication modalities;
 - h. frailty or elderly status;
 - i. mental illness or suicidality;
 - j. developmental disability;
 - k. suspected victims of physical and/or sexual abuse;
 - l. other health conditions requiring arrangements for:
 - 1) housing;
 - 2) movement; or
 - 3) work; or
 - m. other program activities related to their health needs.
2. Communication of patient health needs is documented on the *Health Status Report (HSR)* in the electronic health record.

3. An *HSR* is completed by a provider or nurse in the electronic health record when the provider or nurse identifies a health condition during the initial health assessment or for new health condition discovered during subsequent exams that results in the need for:
 - a. further diagnostic processes;
 - b. specialty consults;
 - c. activity limitations;
 - d. medical equipment or supplies;
 - e. facility restrictions or special housing requirements; or
 - f. other special needs or work restrictions.
4. The provider or nurse will refer to the *HSR Infirmary Criteria Table* prior for finalizing any *HSR*.
5. In general, the notification will be completed and saved through an *HSR* form in the electronic health record. Two printed copies will be issued, one to the patient and one for the unit staff.
6. Providers will enter work restrictions into the electronic health record. Entries will be based on initial health information or changes to patient's current medical conditions.
7. Mental health clinicians will share pertinent information with custody or administrative staff regarding inmate mental health needs.
8. At its regular meetings, the Infirmary Special Needs Committee will review complex inmate cases and requests for restrictions or accommodations from housing unit staff, ADA staff, and administrators.

IV. CLOSING

Questions about this procedure should be directed to the Medical Health Services Manager.