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ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
NUMBER

613

OPR: HEALTH SERVICES

MENTAL HEALTH CODING AND SMI DESIGNATION

I. GENERAL

This Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) Administrative Regulation (AR) establishes policies, procedures, and responsibilities for the assignment and use of mental health (MH) codes and Serious Mental Illness (SMI) status designation.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the ADOC that a MH code and SMI designation is assigned to all inmates during the reception process and to update this information as clinically indicated throughout the time of incarceration. This information indicates whether the inmate is on the MH caseload and, if so, the appropriate level of clinical services and housing assignment. The vendor MH staff will update the MH code and SMI designation to reflect any changes throughout the inmate's incarceration.

The clinical staff use the MH code and SMI designation to ensure that appropriate services are provided and tracked.

ADOC security and classification staff use the MH code and SMI designation to facilitate correct placement and other custody decisions consistent with the inmate's MH needs.

III. DEFINITION(S) AND ACRONYM(S)

Refer to AR 602, Mental Health Definitions and Acronyms, for a complete glossary of terms. See below for specific terms used in this AR:

- A. **MH Code**: A letter code assigned to each inmate that indicates whether the inmate is on the MH caseload and the level of treatment required. There are five possible MH codes: