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**ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
NUMBER** 700

OPR: HEALTH SERVICES

OFFICE OF HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

I. GENERAL

This Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) Administrative Regulation (AR) establishes the responsibilities, policies, and procedures for the Office of Health Services (OHS) Division. The assigned OHS Deputy Commissioner is duly authorized and responsible for the management, implementation, and oversight of the health services, care, treatment, and programs provided for the inmates assigned to the custody of the ADOC.

II. POLICY

This AR quantifies the authority, duties, and responsibilities of the ADOC Office of Health Services. The Department's intent is that all administrative and clinical decisions and actions regarding the provision of health services and programs is based on the philosophy that medical, dental, and mental health decisions should be made by qualified medical, dental, and mental health professionals.

The Department's intent is to ensure that inmates in the custody of ADOC have access to medical, dental, and mental health services and are housed in institutions that can provide for the inmate's specific health care needs, with the assistance of the Office of Health Services.

III. DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

- A. **Administrative Management**: A person who by virtue of licensure and/or certification, or allied health education and administrative experience, is capable of assuming responsibility for arranging all levels of health care and ensuring appropriate and accessible health services.

- B. **Clinical Management**: The examination and treatment of patients, the evaluation of care and services provided, or omitted, as relative to clinical outcome and expected patient goal attainment.
- C. **Health Authority**: The licensed and/or certified allied health professional, governmental health authority, or health care contractor responsible for the institution's health care services, including arrangements for all levels of health care and ensuring quality and accessibility of all health services provided to inmates.
- D. **Health Care Services**: The sum of all actions taken, preventative and therapeutic, to provide for the physical and mental well-being of the inmate population. This includes, but is not limited to, medical and dental services, mental health services, nursing, pharmaceutical services, personal hygiene, and dietary services, and environmental conditions.
- E. **Health Service Vendor**: An entity by virtue of practice and experience that is contracted by the ADOC to provide health services (medical, dental, or mental health) to the inmate population.
- F. **Health Staff**: This includes all qualified health care professionals as well as administrative and support staff such as health record administrators, laboratory technicians, nursing and medical assistants, and clerical workers.
- G. **Inmate**: An individual sentenced to serve a prison term in the custody and control of the ADOC.
- H. **Institution**: An Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) prison, community-based facility/work center, work camp, or other designated housing unit where ADOC inmates are assigned.
- I. **Medical Services**: The management and provision of constitutionally adequate, comprehensive medical services to identified inmates sentenced to the ADOC. Services encompass various levels of care to include a full range of on-site and off-site primary, secondary, and tertiary care.
- J. **Mental Health Services**: The management and delivery of constitutionally adequate, comprehensive mental health services to identified inmates sentenced to the ADOC. Services encompass various levels of care to include a full range of psychiatric and psychological treatments, procedures, programs, institutional staffing, and management. The provision of services is primarily provided on-site at the institutions.
- K. **Provider**: A licensed physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, dentist, or mental health clinician.