

<b>NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS</b>	<b>SERIES 600 HEALTH CARE SERVICES</b>	<b>SUPERSEDES: AR 621(10/13/92)</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS MANUAL</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION 621 INFECTIOUS DISEASES TEMP</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/16/03</b>

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#### **PURPOSE**

To ensure appropriate medical treatment of infectious diseases.

To define the requirements and limitations regarding dissemination of information.

#### **AUTHORITY**

NRS 209.131

NRS 209.511

#### **RESPONSIBILITY**

The Medical Director, the Disease Control Specialist III, and Medical Division staff have the responsibility to have knowledge of and comply with this Regulation.

It is the responsibility of the Infectious Disease Control Committee (IDCC) to develop new policies, review existing policies, and handle any special needs of inmates and concerns and welfare of the Department's personnel, while maintaining standard levels of custody and control.

## **DEFINITIONS**

**DISEASE CONTROL SPECIALIST III** – The person designated to schedule Infection Control Meetings, and coordinating the Infection Control Plan with Medical Administration and regulatory agencies throughout the state.

**INFECTION CONTROL COMMITTEE** – A representative from each institution, at least one physician, one mid-level practitioner, and others as appointed by the Medical Director for the purpose of managing infectious diseases.

**INFECTION CONTROL COORDINATOR** – The nurse at each institution responsible for the implementation of the Infection Control Plan at that institution and a member of the statewide Infection Control Committee.

**INFECTIOUS AGENT** – Blood, semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluids, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, any body fluid visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids.

**UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS** – Processes used to treat all blood and other potentially infectious material as though they are infectious.

## **APPLICABILITY**

Applies to all employees of the Department.

## **PROCEDURES**

### **621.01 INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

#### **1.1 Precautionary Measures**

1.1.1 The following precautionary measures, established through the Center for Disease Control (CDC) will be taken in handling all inmates within the Department: **(3-4365)**

- Barrier devices, such as masks, latex or neoprene gloves, etc., will be made available throughout each institution/facility in case of emergency;
- Gloves will be worn when handling blood specimens, blood soiled items, body fluids, excretions, and secretions, as well as surfaces, materials, and objects exposed to them;
- Hands will be washed thoroughly with soap and water immediately if they become contaminated with blood or other body fluids;

- Gowns will be worn when clothing may be soiled with body fluids, blood, secretions, or excretions;
- Unless circumstances indicate criminal activity, blood, body fluid and contamination spills will be cleaned up promptly, by properly trained staff or inmates, with a disinfectant solution of one part household bleach to ten parts water;
- Disposable items utilized will be placed in a designated red contaminated waste bag, sealed, tagged, and marked “contaminated” and forwarded to the infirmary for proper disposal;
- Any item (clothing, equipment, etc.) that comes into contact with blood, body fluids, excrements, etc., will be properly disinfected or disposed of at the discretion of the Medical Director/designee, unless the items are evidence of a crime;
- The final disposal of contraband, however, will be handled as described in the Department’s Administrative Regulation 458; and
- If any authorized uniform or equipment item of an employee must be surrendered for disposal, the Department will reimburse such employee.

1.1.2 Evidence involved in blood spills will be handled as outlined below:

- 1.1.2.1 In all instances involving suspected criminal activity, the crime scene and all evidence will be secured until photographs are taken and the crime scene investigation is completed.
- 1.1.2.2 Evidence contaminated by any body fluid will be placed in paper bags (in accordance with the Department’s Administrative Regulation 458) and the bag marked with a “contaminated” warning.
- 1.1.2.3 Evidence will be secured in an evidence locker and remain under the control of the evidence officer until it is determined, by proper authority, that the evidence is no longer required.
- 1.1.2.4 The Associate Warden of Operations in conjunction with the Medical Director will determine the proper disposal of evidence related to a crime that has come into contact with any body fluid.

1.1.3 In the event an employee or other individual is injured, immediate emergency medical treatment will be rendered at the institution by qualified medical staff and the person will be referred to a hospital or other appropriate medical facility for examination or any other medical service that may be required.

1.1.4 Staff who are injured on the job will also complete the necessary reports as outlined in the Department's Administrative Regulation 329.

1.1.5 Any time a person is involved in an altercation that involves blood, body fluids, excrements, etc., the Medical Division will be immediately notified in order to ensure that proper measures are taken:

- In cases where an inmate bleeds or when an employee's skin is broken by an inmate, the inmate involved will be assessed by institutional medical personnel as to the inmate's current medical status in respect to infectious diseases;
- Any employee or other individual who is injured by a person who is identified as having an infectious disease will be referred to Occupational Health for treatment and follow-up; and
- This assessment may include: physical examination, lab work, and/or counseling as indicated.

1.1.6 Needles will not be bent after use, but will be promptly placed in a puncture-resistant container used solely for such disposal.

- The Safety needle system implemented at all institutions must be observed with all patient contacts per OSHA.

1.1.7 Care must be taken to avoid accidental wounds from sharp instruments contaminated with potentially infectious material and to avoid contact of open lesions with material from any patient.

- Treat all specimens as potentially infectious.
- Practice Universal Precautions.

1.1.8 Disposable syringes and needles will be used per protocol.

- Only needle-locking syringes or one-piece needle/syringe units will be used to aspirate fluids from patients, so that the collected fluid can be safely discharged through the needle.

1.2 The Medical Division will develop special programs in specific areas designated below.

1.2.1 These will be instituted/managed by Health Care Institutional Procedures (HCIP):

- Tuberculosis Prevention and Control;
- Immunizations;
- Hepatitis Management, including A, B, C;
- HIV - in conjunction with the Department's Administrative Regulation 610;  
and
- Health Education.

1.3 Staff Awareness

1.3.1 The Medical Division will, during Pre-Service Training (PST), address any employee concerns relating to infectious diseases.

1.3.2 The Personnel Department will include this regulation in the Employee New Hire Packet.

1.3.3 The Medical Division will coordinate with the Department's EEO/Employee Development and Employee Relations Division to ensure annual In-service Training.

1.4 Dissemination of Information

1.4.1 The Nevada Revised Statutes and Nevada Law, including the Nevada Administrative Code, form the basis for notification to health officials.

1.4.2 The disclosure of infectious disease information is directed to the State Health Officer.


1.5 The Department will disseminate information regarding infectious diseases to state and local health officials when required by law and in accordance with inmate confidentiality rights.

## **REFERENCES**

ACA Standard 3-4365

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None.

  
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Jackie Crawford, Director

5/5/03  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted D'Amico, D.O., Medical Director

5/6/03  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

CONFIDENTIAL                      XX  
                          Yes                    No

**THIS PROCEDURE SUPERSEDES ALL PRIOR WRITTEN PROCEDURES ON THIS SPECIFIC SUBJECT.**