

STANDARDS FOR HEALTH SERVICES IN JAILS

2018

These standards represent the official position of the National Commission on Correctional Health Care with respect to requirements for health services in jails. They do not necessarily represent the official position of NCCHC supporting organizations or individuals serving on the NCCHC Board of Directors.

National Commission on Correctional Health Care



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essential

CREDENTIALS

Standard

The facility's qualified health care professionals are legally eligible to perform their clinical duties.

Compliance Indicators

1. All qualified health care professionals have credentials and provide services consistent with the licensure, certification, and registration requirements of the jurisdiction.
2. The responsible health authority (RHA) ensures that new hires undergo a credential verification process that confirms current licensure, certification, or registration.
3. The credential verification process includes inquiry regarding sanctions or disciplinary actions of state boards and, for *prescribers*, the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).
4. Qualified health care professionals do not perform tasks beyond those permitted by their credentials.
5. The RHA maintains verification of current credentials for all qualified health care professionals at a readily accessible location.
6. A license that limits practice to only correctional health care is not in compliance with this standard.
7. Specialists providing on-site or telehealth care services have appropriate licenses and certifications on file.
8. All aspects of the standard are addressed by written policy and defined procedures.

Definitions

A *provider* is defined as a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or physician.

A *prescriber* is defined as a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, physician, dentist, or optometrist.

Discussion

It is the responsibility of qualified health care professionals to maintain their license, certification, or registration. It is helpful for the RHA to keep copies of these documents on-site and readily accessible.

Procedures for verification of credentials of new hires should include identification of the following: