



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE
DETENTION SERVICES
FACILITY MEDICAL POLICIES**

Superintendent _____ Signature Designated Health Authority _____ Signature		Effective Date: November 1, 2016	Revised Date: July 5, 2018	Procedure Number: 8010 Medical Services
Subject: MEDICAL ALERTS			Reference: Quality Improvement Standard 4.09	
Purpose:	The purpose of this policy is to ensure an alert system is in place to alert staff when mental health, medical or security issues exist which may affect the security and safety of the youth in the facility.			

PROCEDURE:

A. Placing a Youth on Medical Alert

- a. At a minimum, all youth with chronic medical conditions and/or medical grade 2-5 are to be placed in the alert system in JJIS.
- b. The decision to include a youth in the alert system due to medical issues or concerns should be made by the health care staff, if they are on the premises. However, non-health care staff may also identify youth for inclusion in the alert system based on information obtained during intake screening, upon return from an off-site medical appointment or as the need may arise.
- c. The medical alert system is intended to be highly flexible and serve as a quick reference for staff to use in the event that an issue arises which might affect the youth’s health, safety, or daily staff interactions. Essentially, the medical alert system is a roster of youth names that have or may have a high-risk condition. This condition may be permanent (for example, all diabetic youth will be placed in the facility’s medical alert system), or it may be temporary, (for example, the youth seen in sick call with symptoms of fever and nausea, placed on medical alert for 24 hours as a reminder for direct care staff to check on him periodically).
- d. Nursing staff shall verify all alerts in the medical alert system are accurate and up-to-date on a daily basis.

B. Examples of Conditions To Warrant Placement of a Youth On Medical Alert

- a. Allergies/Anaphylaxis: The youth has any known medication, food, insect, plant or animal allergies. Specific allergies should be listed along with the youth’s name (Permanent Placement).
- b. Medication Interactions: The youth is prescribed medications that have the potential for adverse interactions if given with certain over-the-counter medications. The over-the-counter- medication that is prohibited will be listed (Permanent Placement)
- c. Head Trauma/Injury: Within the preceding two weeks, the youth has sustained a head injury of any sort, whether or not an evaluation was obtained by a physician. For this alert, the potential complication of the injury should be listed (Blurred vision, nausea, vomiting, etc.)
- d. Pregnancy: Permanent placement for the duration of the pregnancy.

- e. A Chronic Medical Condition or Disability (Permanent Placement): The youth has any of the following conditions: (this is not an all-inclusive list):
 - i. Asthma
 - ii. Cancer
 - iii. Diabetes
 - iv. Dialysis
 - v. Hemophilia
 - vi. Prosthesis
 - vii. Seizure Disorder
 - viii. Sickle Cell Anemia
 - ix. Speech Impairment
 - x. Tuberculosis
 - xi. Visual Impairment
 - xii. Any other chronic condition of which the Staff should be aware.
- f. Medication Side Effects: The youth is on a medication that has significant side effects for which the staff should monitor and then report to medical personnel (i.e. low blood pressure with positional changes, risk for bleeding, increased heart rate, etc.) This will be at the discretion of the prescriber.
- g. The youth has activity limitations or sport restrictions due to medical conditions or injuries.
- h. The youth is aggressive and/or sexually acting out and presents a risk of harm to other youth.
 - i. Upon the direction of an off-site provider.
 - j. If the youth has demonstrated that he/she is a cheeker/palmer of medications.
 - k. Upon the direction of the facility superintendent, or shift supervisor.
 - l. Upon the direction of the Designated Health Authority or designee, PA or ARNP providing services at the facility.

C. Exclusions From the Medical Alert System

- a. Youth with a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS should not automatically be placed on the Medical Alert list as Florida Law has specific disclosure requirements. Pursuant to Chapter 381 F.S., HIV test results can be disclosed only to the youth and to the following entities:
 - i. The youth's legally authorized representative.
 - ii. Health care providers during the course of consultation, diagnosis or treatment of the individual;
 - iii. The Department of Health for the purposes of reporting and control of spread of disease.
 - iv. Only those employees of residential facilities or of community-based care programs that care for developmentally disabled persons, pursuant to chapter 393, who are directly involved in the care, control, or custody of such test subject and who have a need to know such information. Medical personnel who have been subject to a significant exposure after a court order is obtained.
 - v. Only those employees of residential facilities or of community-based care programs that care for developmentally disabled persons, pursuant to chapter 393, who are directly involved in the care, control, or custody of such test subject and who have a need to know such information. Medical personnel who have been subject to a significant exposure after a court order is obtained.
 - vi. Health care facility personnel or agents for the health care provider who have a need to know in the course of patient care activities or administrative operations.

- b. The youth's medical status should not be released, divulged, or discussed by anyone without the youth's permission or when the above circumstances exist. After obtaining the youth's permission, this information will be conveyed to those who have a relevant need to know. The youth should sign a consent/release form for the release of this information to the individuals who are then listed in writing. Those seeking to obtain the consent will explain to the youth the purpose of the release.
- c. **HIV STATUS IS NOT PLACED ON THE ALERT LIST**