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Chronic Illness Management	ACA Standards: 2-CO-4E-01, 4-4350, 4-4354M, 4-4356M, 4-4357M, 4-4359M, 4-4361, 4-ACRS-4C-09, 4-ACRS-4C-10		
Joe M. Allbaugh, Director Oklahoma Department of Corrections		Signature on File	

Chronic Illness Management

Chronic illnesses are defined as illnesses that are either ongoing or recurring over a course of several months to years. The purpose of managing chronic illnesses is to provide close monitoring, maintain the inmate’s health status or to slow the progression of the illness. Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) tracks the more common chronic illnesses as outlined in this procedure although ANY disease or condition that is persistent or reoccurring is considered a chronic illness. Other chronic illnesses include but not limited to: Cancer, End Stage Renal Disease, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson, and Dementia.

For some chronic illnesses, nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines exist. These guidelines serve as the framework within which care will be provided. Individualized treatment will be based on co-existing illnesses, medications, health history, and objective data from illness monitoring. (2-CO-4E-01, 4-4357M, 4-ACRS-4C-09)

I. Identification of Chronic Illness

- A. Chronic illnesses are typically identified in one of the following ways:
 1. At intake, through review of health history and examination;
 2. At a regularly scheduled physical examination; or

3. Upon presentation for acute or episodic care.

At the time a chronic illness is identified, the inmate diagnoses will be entered in the Problem List and scheduled for routine visits to the health services unit. Severity classifications will be in accordance with "Severity Classification of Common Chronic Illness" ([Attachment A](#), attached).

B. Initial Treatment Plan

The initial treatment plan will be developed by a health care provider and documented on the "Chronic Clinic and/or Routine/Physical Examination" form ([DOC 140137A](#), attached), as outlined in [OP-140106](#) entitled "Healthcare Record System." The plan will include, but will not be limited to: patient education, instructions and orders about diet, exercise, adaptation to the correctional environment, medication, type and frequency of diagnostic testing, special therapies, activity restrictions and the frequency of follow-up for medical evaluation/referral and adjustment of treatment modality. (4-4350, 4-4359M)

II. Routine Chronic Illness Clinic Visits

A. Inmates with Chronic Illnesses

Inmates identified with chronic illnesses will be scheduled for routine visits to the health services unit to ensure reevaluation of the condition and adjustment of the treatment plan as needed. Follow-up will be provided as clinically indicated for inmates with unstable or poorly controlled illnesses.

B. Routine Visits

Routine visits will be conducted by a health care provider.

1. The inmate will be seen by a health care provider at least twice annually, and adjustments to the treatment plan will be made as clinically indicated.
2. Results of the chronic illness visits will be documented by the health care provider on the "Chronic Illness and/or Routine/Physical Examination" form ([DOC 140137A](#)). (4-4359M)
3. Between routine health care provider visits, nursing visits with a registered nurse (RN) or licensed practical nurse (LPN) may be scheduled as clinically indicated for inmate education, monitoring, review of testing, and other nursing interventions as part of a collaborative multidisciplinary approach. These visits will be documented utilizing the "Chronic Clinic RN Progress Note" ([MSRM 140137.09](#))

III. Monitoring of Chronic Illnesses

For some chronic illnesses, frequent monitoring is an integral part of the treatment plan (e.g., blood pressures, blood sugars, peak flows) and will be provided by a QHCP as ordered and recorded in the EHR. If a separate log is kept of the results of monitoring, this information will be scanned and placed into the inmate's electronic healthcare record weekly at a minimum.

IV. Inmate Education

Inmate education is a vital part of chronic illness management and should be done at each visit. Providing reasonable opportunities for inmates to participate in self-care prepares them to manage their conditions during their incarceration and upon discharge from custody. (4-4361)

V. Chronic Clinic Guidelines

A. Clinical Guidelines

ODOC has developed clinical guidelines for certain chronic illnesses, based on nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines. These clinical guidelines are located in the Medical Services Resource Manual (MSRM). They are as follows:

1. MSRM: 140137-01 entitled "Management of Asthma;"
2. MSRM: 140137-02 entitled "Management of Diabetes;"
3. MSRM: 140137-03 entitled "Management of Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection / Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome;" (4-4354M, 4-4357M)
4. MSRM: 140137-04 entitled "Management of Hypertension;"
5. MSRM: 140137-05 entitled "Management of Seizure Disorder;"
6. MSRM: 140137-06 entitled "Management of Hepatitis C;"(4-4356M,)
7. MSRM: 140137-07 entitled "Management of Coronary Artery Disease;"
8. MSRM: 140137-08 entitled "Management of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease;" and

9. MSRM: 140125-01 entitled "Management of Viral Hepatitis." (4-4356M)

B. Clinical Guideline References

Clinical guidelines will be utilized to form the basis for monitoring activities for performance improvement. Clinical guidelines address the following: (4-4359M)

1. Frequency of follow-up visits;
2. Recommended content for history and examination;
3. Routine laboratory and other diagnostic tests;
4. Recommended therapeutic measures;
5. Chronic clinic documentation;
6. Specialty consultation;
7. Monitoring of medications;
8. Goals of therapy; and
9. Criteria for discontinuance in chronic clinic enrollment.

C. Guidelines for Routine and Annual Follow-up

The "Chronic Illness Management Guidelines-Routine and Annual Treatment Guidelines" ([Attachment B](#), attached) provides treatment guidelines for routine and annual follow-up.

- D. Chronic care management uses a collaborative multidisciplinary team approach. To assist the health care provider in the management of chronic illnesses, a RN or LPN may schedule routine appointments and procedures, order and obtain routine labs, and perform EKG's per "Chronic Illnesses Management Guidelines – Routine and Annual Treatment Guidelines" ([Attachment B](#)). The RN or LPN will utilize the "Chronic Clinic Nursing Intervention Nursing Protocol" ([MSRM 140117.01.12.1](#)). The "Chronic Clinic Nursing Intervention Nursing Protocol" is approved by the chief medical officer for nursing to perform in accordance with the "Chronic Illness Management Guidelines – Routine and Annual Guidelines." The approved "Chronic Clinic Nursing Intervention Nursing Protocol" does not require a healthcare provider's order. The "Chronic Clinic Nursing Intervention Nursing Protocol" is based upon nationally recognized evidence-based guidelines and recommendations.

VI. Copayment

The visits and medications associated with the chronic illness will be exempt from co-pay.

VII. References

Policy Statement No. P-140100 entitled "Inmate Medical, Mental Health and Dental Care"

OP-140106 entitled "Healthcare Record System"

VIII. Action

The chief medical officer is responsible for compliance with this procedure.

The director of Health Services is responsible for the annual review and revisions.

Any exceptions to this procedure will require prior written approval from the agency director.

This procedure is effective as indicated.

Replaced: Operations Memorandum No. OP-140137 entitled "Chronic Illness Management" dated August 22, 2017

Distribution: Policy and Operations Manual
Agency Website

<u>Referenced Forms</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Location</u>
DOC 140137A	"Chronic Clinic and/or Routine/Physical Examination"	Attached
MSRM 140117.01.12.1	"Chronic Clinic Nursing Interventions Nursing Protocol"	MSRM 140117.01
MSRM 140137.09	"Chronic Clinic RN Progress Note"	MSRM 140137.09

<u>Attachments</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Location</u>
Attachment A	"Severity Classification of Common Chronic Illness"	Attached
Attachment B	"Chronic Illness Management Guidelines- Routine and Annual Treatment Guidelines"	Attached