


DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION  INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES DIVISION	DIRECTIVE NUMBER: 401.06.03.059.01	PAGE NUMBER: 1 of 2
	SUBJECT: Eye Examinations	Adopted: 06-01-95 Revised: 06-03-99 Reformatted: 02-2001

01.00.00. POLICY OF THE DEPARTMENT

It is the policy of the Idaho Board of Correction that the Department of Correction ensure proper medical, dental, psychiatric and psychological services and treatment be provided to inmates incarcerated under its jurisdiction, including those state-sentenced offenders held in non-IDOC facilities.

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03.00.00. REFERENCES

Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions, Third Edition, Standards 3-4343, 3-4344, 3-4360.

Standards for Health Services in Prisons, P-59.

04.00.00. DEFINITIONS

Facility Health Authority: The on-site Health Authority or senior health staff assigned.

Medical Authority: Idaho Department of Correction Health Services Chief.

Medical Director: A physician (M.D.) either employed by the Idaho Department of Correction or the physician in charge if medical services are privatized.

Regional Health Manager: The individual assigned as the primary manager who is administratively responsible for the delivery of medical services if health services are privatized.

05.00.00. PROCEDURE

Optometric examinations shall be done when the health of an inmate would otherwise be adversely affected.

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The need for frequent eye care shall be determined by the Medical Director, Regional Health Manager, and the institution optometrist in conjunction with the Facility Health Authority.

When visual correction is needed, it shall be the responsibility of the contract medical provider to provide exam and corrective eye wear (glasses).

“Timers” wearing of contact lenses while incarcerated with the Idaho Department of Correction is generally prohibited.

Contact lenses are easily lost.

The potential for serious injury to the eye is greatly increased if tear gas or other chemical agent is used during disturbances in prisons.

When and if there is a need for contact lenses for the “timer” inmate, the determination to allow this medical eye wear shall be the decision of the Medical Director, the Medical Authority, and the consultant ophthalmologist.

Ordinarily, the only eye condition which requires a need for the wearing of contact lenses is keratoconus.

The North Idaho Correctional Institution (NICI), the Pocatello Women’s Correctional Center (PWCC), and the Community Work Center (CWC) inmates under the 120 jurisdiction program are permitted to retain and wear contacts if approved by the facility head.

Replacement of lost or destroyed lenses will be the inmate’s responsibility. Further, all solutions and kits for cleansing, disinfecting, soaking and storing will be at the inmate’s expense.

The IDOC Medical Authority will have the final decision in case of dispute.

Replacement of lost or broken glasses will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

The IDOC Medical Authority will have final decision in cases of dispute.

If an inmate is within 90 days of parole or release, no exam or correction is approved.

Administrator, Institutional Services Division

Date