



CORRECTIONS MEDICINE
Access to Diagnostic Services
ACA Standard: 4 ALDF – 4C – 03 and 4C – 05

Effective: January 1994

Revised: May 2010, June 2015, Apr 2016, May 2019, Aug 2019

Reviewed: May 2013, April 2017, May 2018,

Policy Number:
CM – 30

- I. **PURPOSE:** To provide incarcerated individuals in the Buzz Westfall Justice Center access to laboratory and diagnostic services.
- II. **POLICY:** Patients shall have access to diagnostic services for proper evaluation, as ordered by the responsible medical provider, through the Saint Louis County Department of Public Health (DPH) Corrections Medicine program.
- III. **RESPONSIBILITY:** All staff working in the Corrections Medicine program are responsible for the content of this policy and procedure, as well as adherence to the policy.
- IV. **PROCEDURE:**
 1. Diagnostic services are available to the patients, for use when needed upon provider order.
 2. Diagnostic services not available at the Buzz Westfall Justice Center are available through contracted partnerships with community based healthcare clinics. Diagnostic labs that cannot be performed onsite are sent to a reputable CLIA-approved agency.
 3. Laboratory services are available in the Buzz Westfall Justice Center through point of care and venous services. Lab services not available at the Buzz Westfall Justice Center can be attained through contracts with partnerships with community base healthcare facilities.
 4. Medical providers will place an order in the electronic medical record (EMR) for all testing for patients. The nursing staff will transcribe the orders by scheduling the appropriate testing, completing the appropriate requisitions, and contacting the appropriate staff member, provider, or agency to perform the testing.
 5. Testing that is available on-site is completed by Corrections Medicine clinical staff.
 - a. Testing that requires off-site services will be scheduled and transportation is arranged by Department of Justice Services (DJS) transportation officers. Patients will be referred by order of a medical provider to the appropriate clinic and/or emergency services. In the event of an emergency, patients shall be transported by ambulance and will be escorted by DJS custody staff.
- V. **REFERENCE:**

National Commission on Correctional Health Care; Standards for Health Services in Jails; 2018: Standard J-D-04