



## **PRIVATE MEDICAL/MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION**

### **POLICY.**

It is the policy of Deschutes County Sheriff's Office – Adult Jail (AJ) that inmates are permitted to be examined and treated by the physician or mental health professional of their choice at the inmate's expense.

### **PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this policy is to set forth guidelines governing instances when inmates seek medical or mental health treatment from providers of their own choosing and at their own expense.

### **OREGON JAIL STANDARDS:**

- G-103 Cost of Health Care Services
- G-208 Elective Procedures

### **PROCEDURES.**

By prior arrangement with a corrections supervisor, and at a time which does not conflict with scheduled activities (such as visitation, religious services, or inmate programs), inmates will be permitted to be examined and treated at the inmate's own expense by a licensed, private physician or behavioral health professional of their choice. This does not include any elective health care procedures except female inmates wishing to terminate a pregnancy.

- A-1.** When approved, private physicians will examine and treat inmates either in the AJ Medical Examination Room or in the private physician's office, at the discretion of a supervisor.
- A-2.** Behavioral health professionals may examine, treat and/or provide counseling to inmates in an available AJ room that offers privacy. If a behavioral health professional requests to consult with an inmate by telephone, the request will be received and communicated to the inmate as soon as possible so that the inmate can call the behavioral health professional back by telephone.
- A-3.** Payment for services rendered by personal physicians and/or behavioral health professionals will be paid in full by the requesting inmate and made in advance of the visit. The AJ will not act as a billing agent under any circumstance.