



## **CONSCIOUS REFUSAL OF FOOD/FLUIDS**

### **POLICY.**

It is the policy of the Deschutes County Adult Jail that the Facility's Medical Unit will make every effort to insure the physical health and well being of the inmates.

### **PURPOSE.**

When an inmate consciously decides to refuse food or fluid, steps will be taken to maintain the health and welfare of that inmate.

### ***SECTION A: GENERAL GUIDELINES***

- A-1.** When corrections or medical staff is aware an inmate refuses food, the shift supervisor will be notified. The supervisor will ensure this information is communicated to both corrections and medical staff.
- A-2.** Deputies will ensure the food tray is either handed to the inmate or placed in the cell, even if the inmate does not want to eat. Documentation will be logged in the jail computer system under "Meal Service" and in "Attachments" in the inmate's JMS file.
- A-3.** Inmate will be seen each day by medical staff. If medical staff is not available, HTO will interview and check physical status as appearing stable or unstable, as they are required to do on the intake medical screen when admitting an inmate into the facility. A nurse will coordinate with the shift supervisor when deputies need to conduct this interview.
- A-4.** If fast continues into third day, the on-duty nurse, as well as on-duty shift supervisor, will be notified.
- A-5.** Mental Health evaluation should be done on the third day by Mental Health Specialist.
- A-6.** Inmate will be transported to the emergency room at the direction of medical staff.