



Administrative Policies and Procedures: 18.10

Subject:	Substance Abuse Screening For Youth in Youth Development Centers and DCS Group Homes
Authority:	TCA 37-5-105, 37-5-106
Standards:	ACA: 3-JTS-4C-24-2; 3-JTS-4C-42, 3JTS-4C-43; COA: PA-GLS 1.02, 3.04; PA-RTX 3.05; DCS Practice Standard: 6-300, 8-306
Application:	To All Department of Children's Services Youth Development Center Superintendents, Group Home Supervisors and Employees

Policy Statement:

Substance abuse screenings shall be utilized for delinquent youth when the facility's local procedures require, or the program staffing team requires periodic screenings as an objective of a youth's Individual Program Plan (IPP). Monitoring methods shall be consistent with program needs and approved by the health care authority. DCS shall also provide for diagnosis, treatment, and safe detoxification of the chemically dependent youth at a medical facility outside of the Youth Development Center.

Purpose:

To ensure a process to screen youth suspected of substance abuse and refer youth in need of chemical detoxification to a medical facility equipped to provide supportive care.

Procedures:

A. Supplying urine samples

1. Youth suspected of being or having been either intoxicated or under the influence of drugs may be required by on-duty staff, with the approval of the YDC superintendent, DCS group home supervisor or designee to supply a urine sample for analysis by substance abuse screening.
2. The YDC superintendent, DCS group home supervisor or designee will ensure that a supply of collection containers, labels are available. All test results must be maintained in the youth's master file.
3. Each sample collected must be accurately labeled with appropriate information and sealed in the presence of the youth supplying the sample. Staff and youth must initial the label.
4. Collection of samples must be conducted in privacy and witnessed by a staff member of the same gender as the youth giving the sample.
5. The sample must be securely stored.

<p>B. On-site drug testing</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The YDC superintendent, DCS group home supervisor or designee will ensure that the facility utilizes the approved vendor on state contract or a reputable drug screening tool for the immediate screening of youth if on-site testing is performed at the facility. 2. The youth and employee collecting the specimen must verify each sample collected. 3. Drug screens must be performed by an employee that is trained in the use of specific type of screening tool. 4. This training will be documented in the employee's training record. 5. Youth may have the opportunity to witness the test. 6. After the test is complete the results will be made available to the youth and the results will be maintained in the youth master file. 7. All urine testing equipment must be properly disposed of as outlined in DCS policy 23.4 Waste Management. 8. Nursing staff in the YDC's may conduct substance abuse laboratory screenings only for medical assessment and medical treatment. Routine drug screens in the Youth Development Centers are treatment and/or security issues and are not performed by medical personnel.
<p>C. Disciplinary action as a result of substance abuse screening</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Positive findings of a substance abuse screening may result in disciplinary action for youth. If the youth is screened based on probable cause, the youth must receive a disciplinary report if the screening results are positive. 2. If results are positive, the youth's health record should be reviewed to be certain that the positive reading was not a result of prescription medication. 3. If a youth refuses to provide a urine sample or tampers with the sample, he/she will receive a disciplinary report for refusing to obey staff instructions or tampering with a urine sample. 4. The youth may request a retest of the sample at a licensed medical laboratory if an on-site screen was positive. If the laboratory test is also positive, the youth will be responsible for payment of the test.
<p>D. Youth Development Center (YDC) responsibilities</p>	<p>In YDCs, early identification and treatment of substance abuse will be identified through a standardized battery assessment. This battery will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Screening, 2. Clinical assessment, 3. Medical assessment if appropriate for substance abuse program assignment to meet the needs of the individual youth, 4. Referrals, and 5. Monitoring and drug testing.

E. Detoxification of chemically dependent youth in YDC's - referral for treatment	Any youth suspected of or experiencing drug or alcohol withdrawal symptoms (insomnia, tremulousness, seizures, delirium tremens, grand mal seizures, etc.) must be referred to the local hospital for medical detoxification. The nursing staff will assess the youth and make arrangements for placement for detoxification. Detoxification must <u>never</u> be conducted in the youth development center clinics.

Forms:	<i>None</i>
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Collateral documents:	<i>None</i>
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