Appendix C: Information About the National Commission on Correctional Health Care and Its Position Statements

The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization committed to improving the quality of care in our nation’s jails, prisons, and juvenile detention and confinement facilities. NCCHC is supported by national organizations listed below representing the fields of health, law, and corrections.

In the early 1970s, the American Medical Association (AMA) studied the conditions in jails. Finding inadequate, disorganized health services and a lack of national standards to guide correctional institutions, the AMA in collaboration with other organizations established a program that eventually, in the early 1980s, became the National Commission on Correctional Health Care. NCCHC’s early mission was to evaluate, formulate policy, and develop programs for a floundering area clearly in need of assistance.

Today, NCCHC’s leadership in setting standards for health services and improving health care in correctional facilities is widely recognized. NCCHC’s Standards for Health Services are written in separate volumes for prisons, jails, and juvenile confinement facilities. The Standards represent NCCHC’s recommended requirements for the management of a correctional health services system, covering the general areas of care and treatment, health records, administration, personnel, and medical and legal issues. The Standards have helped the Nation’s correctional and detention facilities improve the health of their inmates, staff, and the communities to which they return; increase the efficiency of their health services delivery; and strengthen their organizational effectiveness.

As well as establishing standards, each year NCCHC sponsors correctional health care’s major educational and scientific conferences. Each fall, the annual National Conference on Correctional Health Care draws physicians, nurses, psychologists, scientists, and other health care providers and researchers to learn about contemporary practices and issues in the field of correctional health care. Each spring, the Clinical Updates conference provides the latest information on infectious and chronic disease research and treatments, as well as other timely clinical issues in correctional health care.

With a network of nationally recognized experts in health care administration and delivery, NCCHC offers an accreditation program for correctional facilities that meet NCCHC standards, provides technical assistance and quality improvement reviews on correctional health care management and policy issues, and develops and publishes research on the correctional health care field. In addition, NCCHC operates the national certification program for correctional health professionals, sponsors other educational and training programs, and publishes numerous support texts.

The members of the NCCHC volunteer Board of Directors set policies and guide the organization’s program efforts. Each is appointed to the board by one of 34 supporting organizations.
American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry  
Louis Kraus, M.D.

American Academy of Pediatrics  
James W.M. Owens, M.D., M.P.H., CCHP

American Academy of Physician Assistants  
Peter C. Ober, PA-C, J.D., CCHP

American Academy of Psychiatry & the Law  
Charles A. Meyer, Jr., M.D., CCHP-A

American Association of Physician Specialists  
Jere G. Sutton, D.O.

American Association of Public Health Physicians  
Jonathan B. Weisbuch, M.D., M.P.H.

American Bar Association  
Susan L. Kay, J.D.

American College of Emergency Physicians  
William Haeck, M.D., CCHP

American College of Healthcare Executives  
Eugene A. Migliaccio, Dr.P.H., CCHP

American College of Neuropsychiatrists  
Bernard Feigelman, D.O.

American College of Physicians  
John M. Robertson, M.D., M.P.H.

American Correctional Health Services Association  
JoRene Kerns, B.S.N., CCHP

American Counseling Association  
Nancy B. White, L.P.C., M.A.C.

American Dental Association  
Thomas E. Shields, II, D.D.S., CCHP

American Diabetes Association  
Samuel Eichold, II, B.S., M.D.

American Dietetic Association  
Jenny Roper, M.S., R.D.

American Jail Association  
Beverley Wilber

American Medical Association  
Alvin J. Thompson, M.D., M.A.C.P., CCHP

American Nurses Association  
Kleanthe Caruso, R.N., M.S.N., CCHP

American Osteopathic Association  
George J. Pramstaller, D.O., CCHP

American Pharmaceutical Association  
Robert L. Hilton, R.Ph., CCHP

American Psychiatric Association  
Henry C. Weinstein, M.D., CCHP

American Psychological Association  
Thomas J. Fagan, Ph.D.

American Public Health Association  
Robert Cohen, M.D.

American Society of Addiction Medicine  
H. Blair Carlson, M.D., CCHP

John Howard Association  
Charles A. Fasano

National Association of County and City Health Officials  
Douglas A. Mack, M.D.

National Association of Counties  
Kenneth J. Kuipers, Ph.D.

National District Attorneys Association  
The Honorable Richard A. Devine

National Juvenile Detention Association  
David W. Roush, Ph.D.
In addition to the standards, NCCHC periodically adopts position statements that address issues of importance in the management of health care in corrections. The following are available as of the date of this publication.

- Automated External Defibrillators in Correctional Settings
- Charging Inmates a Fee for Health Care Services
- Competency for Execution
- Continuity of Care
- Correctional Health Care and the Prevention of Violence
- DNA Analysis
- Drug Testing of Correctional Staff
- Health Care Funding for Incarcerated Youth
- Health Services to Adolescents in Adult Facilities
- Licensed Health Care Providers in Correctional Institutions
- Management of Hepatitis B in Correctional Facilities
- Management of Hepatitis C in Correctional Facilities
- Management of HIV in Correctional Facilities
- Management of Tuberculosis in Correctional Facilities
- Mental Health Services in Correctional Settings
- Telemedicine Technology in Correctional Facilities
- Third Party Reimbursement for Correctional Health Care
- Women’s Health Care in Correctional Settings