

HEALTH SERVICES POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL

North Carolina Department Of Correction
Division Of Prisons

SECTION: Care and Treatment of Patients

POLICY # TX II-21

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SUBJECT: Procuring Medications for Inmate Workman's
Comp Cases

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 2007

SUPERCEDES DATE: NONE

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines on how to obtain medications for inmates injured while on work release.

POLICY

Inmates will receive medications as ordered. Typically when an inmate is injured on the job while on work release, the employer, as part of workman's comp, pays for the inmate's medication that is ordered as a result of the injury. In cases where the employer is not available or able to purchase, the Department of Correction will obtain the medications.

PROCEDURE

1. The OIC will inform the facility nurse or the telephone triage nurse that the inmate is at the emergency room. The nurse will talk with the emergency room nurse or physician regarding care and treatment upon return to the facility. The facility provider or on-call provider will be notified of any ordered medications for their approval.
2. If the employer is present at the emergency room, the correction officer will inform the employer of their responsibility to purchase the medications.
3. If the employer is not present or unable to purchase at the time:
 - a. During week day time hours: the facility nurse will obtain medication through the standard process.
 - b. During evening/night hours or weekend/holiday: the facility/triage nurse will request the ER to provide enough medication until the next business day. If the ER is unable to provide the medications, the facility/triage nurse will instruct the OIC to obtain medications from the local pharmacy using standard operational procedures. Since this is a workman's comp case, the nurse will instruct the officer to have the entire prescription filled.
4. All receipts must to be maintained to submit to the facility's Administrative Officer in order to obtain reimbursement from the employer.



10/10/07

Paula Y. Smith, MD, Director of Health Services

Date

SOR: Director of Nursing