

## Care of Pregnant/Post-Partum Youth

### 996.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose is to establish and implement written policy and procedures pertaining to pregnant and post-partum youth. This policy applies to all juvenile facility staff.

### 996.2 AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

- Board of State and Community Corrections Title 15 § 1417;
- California Penal Code §§ 3407 & 6030;
- Policy 937: Admittance Procedures;
- Policy 951: Use of Physical Restraints;
- Welfare and Institutions Code § 222.

### 996.3 POLICY

Each juvenile facility shall ensure pregnant and post-partum youth have access to treatment and education with regard to diet, vitamins and pregnancy-related health issues. Youth will also receive information regarding options for continuation of pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, and adoption. Staff shall be trained regarding limitations on the use of restraints on pregnant youth.

### 996.4 ADMITTANCE

Prior to accepting custody, youth who report pregnancy shall be interviewed by on-site health care staff. An "ok to book" shall be required for all pregnant youth who have not been medically cleared by on-site health care staff. Refer to Policy 937: Admittance Procedures.

### 996.5 SERVICES PROVIDED

Pregnant youth shall be permitted reasonable access to prenatal and post-partum care, including physical examinations, either through on-site health care staff or by their private physician. The youth or her parent(s)/legal guardian(s) shall pay all expenses incurred through the private physician's services.

On-site health care staff shall provide prenatal vitamins and inform youth supervision and kitchen staff, in writing, as to all special dietary needs including, but not limited to, A.M. and P.M. snacks with milk.

Lactating youth shall be provided a breast pump and procedures for storage, delivery or disposal.

Qualified medical professionals shall develop a plan for pregnant youth that includes direct communication of medical information and transfer of medical records regarding prenatal care to the obstetrician who will be providing prenatal care and delivery in the community.

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#### **996.5.1 COUNSELING AND EDUCATION**

On-site health care staff shall provide all pregnant youth with counseling and educational materials related, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Information regarding options for continuation of pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, and adoption;
- (b) Prenatal and postpartum health care;
- (c) Nutritional guidance;
- (d) Childbirth;
- (e) Breastfeeding; and
- (f) Parenting education.

#### **996.6 LIMITATIONS**

Pregnant youth shall only participate in sports or exercise programs as authorized by their physician or on-site health care staff.

#### **996.7 USE OF RESTRAINTS INVOLVING PREGNANT YOUTH**

The use of restraints on pregnant youth is limited in accordance with Policy 951: Use of Physical Restraints, California Penal Code (PC) Sections 3407 and 6030 and Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 222.

- (a) A youth known to be pregnant or in recovery after delivery shall not be restrained by the use of leg irons, waist chains, the Wrap, or handcuffs behind the body.
- (b) A pregnant youth in labor, during delivery, or in recovery after delivery, shall not be restrained by the wrists, ankles, or both, unless deemed necessary for the safety and security of the youth, the staff, or the public.
- (c) Physical restraints shall be removed when a professional who is currently responsible for the medical care of the pregnant youth during a medical emergency, labor, delivery, or recovery after delivery determines that the removal of restraints is medically necessary.

During transportation or for the purpose of behavior control, all pregnant youth shall be handcuffed in front of their body. Staff shall ensure the safety of the pregnant youth while being escorted in restraints.

The rights provided to females by the WIC Section 222 shall be posted in at least one conspicuous place to which all female youth have access (attachment).

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Attachments:

[1. Welfare and Institutions Code Section 222](#)

## **WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTION 222:**

### **Right To Pregnancy Services: Treatment Of Youth At Hospital Giving Birth**

- (a) A female youth in the custody of a local juvenile facility shall have the right to summon and receive the services of a physician and surgeon of her choice in order to determine whether she is pregnant. If she is found to be pregnant, she is entitled to a determination of the extent of the medical services needed by her and to the receipt of those services from the physician and surgeon of her choice. Expenses occasioned by the services of a physician and surgeon whose services are not provided by the facility shall be borne by the female youth.
- (b) A female youth who is known to be pregnant or in recovery from delivery shall not be restrained except as provided in California Penal Code (PC) Section 3407.
- (c) For purposes of this section, "local juvenile facility" means a city, county, or regional facility used for the confinement of juveniles for more than 24 hours.
- (d) The rights provided to female youth by this section shall be posted in at least one conspicuous place to which all female youth have access.

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