

**ROADMAP OF STANDARD
MEDICAL SERVICES IN PRISONS
AND DETENTION FACILITIES**

The present roadmap is based on the Standards of Medical Services and Additional Standards of Medical Services for the Persons with Special Needs in Prisons and Detention Facilities(Hereinafter “the Standards”), approved by Order No31 of the Minister of Corrections and Probation of Georgia, dated by April 22 of 2015 .

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Medical Services Envisaged by the Standards

Penitentiary healthcare standards extend to the following services:

- Initial medical examination upon admission
- Primary healthcare unit services
- Prevention of diseases and promotion of improvement of health status
- Planned inpatient and outpatient services
- Emergency inpatient and outpatient services
- Urgent medical care
- Dental service
- Mental healthcare protection
- Medication provision
- Harm reduction and addiction treatment

Also, the standards extend to additional medical services:

- Medical services to accused/convicted women
- Accused/convicted juvenile offenders
- Geriatric accused/convicted persons
- Accused/convicted persons with disabilities

Initial Medical Examination upon Admission

Initial medical examination of accused/convicted persons is conducted by doctor of relevant qualification within 24 hours of their intake in the correctional institution.

In the course of initial medical examination the health condition of the accused/convicted person is described and documented objectively. Namely, the following information is:

- Description and documentation of physical injuries and their traces (signs of violence and/or facts of violence, described by the person, tattoos, piercing and etc);
- Determination if the accused/convicted person is carrier of such communicable diseases, that pose risk to the health of the person himself, as well as persons exposed to such risks
- Determination of the need of mental care and initial assessment of suicide related risks;
- Determination of the need of urgent medical intervention (including problems related to drug or alcohol intoxication or withdrawal), detoxication and treatment;
- For the purpose of avoiding interruption of ongoing medical treatment ensure provision of urgent medical care and uninterrupted supply of medication.

In the course of initial medical examination for each accused/convicted person is planned conducting of relevant laboratory tests and instrumental examinations and following preventive measures are conducted:

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- Screening for TB symptoms and in case of presence of symptoms, conducting of further diagnostic examinations. Prior to confirmation of diagnosis by lab test results, the accused/convicted person remains in the conditions of detection, where is lesser risk of spread of infection;
 - Voluntary consultation and testing for HIV/AIDS;
 - Voluntary consultation and testing for B and C hepatitis; also, vaccination for B hepatitis;
 - Offer laboratory testing and treatment of Syphilis.

Primary Healthcare Unit Services

In all prisons and detention facilities are primary healthcare teams. Primary healthcare services include the following:

- Prevention and early detection of TB, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis and syphilis and immunization;
- Prevention, screening and management of such non-communicable diseases as cardiovascular, endocrine, and other metabolic and Oncological diseases and osteoporosis;
- Prevention, screening and management of mental disorders, prevention of suicide; prevention and early detection of addiction;
- Conducting of functional-diagnostic examinations within the limits of competence;
- Collection, preparation and transportation of material for ambulatory lab tests;
- Diagnosis and treatment of chronic diseases and acute conditions, symptomatic treatment, provision of nursing care and urgent medical care within the limits of competence;

- Planning of referral to other physicians or medical facilities for the purpose of preventive and screening services, as well as diagnostic and treatment. Including, consultations with medical specialists and inpatient and instrumental examination (referral of the accused/convicted persons for high-tech examination is conducted on the basis of prescription/recommendation of medical specialist);
- Maintaining of medical documentation, registration of data on the accused/convicted persons, reporting, write out prescriptions and issuing medical documentation in compliance with confidentiality norms;
- Prevention and documentation of signs of torture in compliance with international standards and in the event of necessity, provision of information to the relevant department of the Ministry, maintaining of statistics on injuries/violence and reporting.

Prevention of Diseases and Promotion of Improvement of Health Status

Prevention of diseases implies conducting of medical examinations (screening) of practically healthy persons, the purpose of which is diagnosing of diseases at earlier stages.

Initial preventive screening is conducted within the reasonable period after admission of the accused/convicted persons into correctional facilities, i.e. no later than within 6 months from that date (exclusions shall be allowed in regard to preventive screening of those accused/convicted persons, who have been placed in inpatient medical facilities during the above-mentioned period of time).

After initial screening are planned further preventive medical ex-

aminations, their frequency and scope. Further medical examinations are referred to as routine visits.

Routine preventive examinations include the following:

- Determination of risk factors;
- Other planned screening and consultations;
- Determination of body mass index and in the event of presence of specific risks, provision of further consultations;
- Conducting of blood and urine tests through use of test sticks, measuring of arterial pressure, and in the event of need, conducting of blood and urine general tests, determination of creatinine, lipid profile TSH.

Minimal frequency of routine preventive screening is:

- For underage persons – twice a year
- For persons under 50 – once a year
- For persons over 50 – twice a year

Use of services, provided by preventive package is voluntary.

Preventive Package

Preventive package covers following medical examinations:

Communicable diseases:

- Screening for B hepatitis
- Screening for C hepatitis
- Screening for HIV/AIDS
- Screening for syphilis
- Screening for TB

Non-communicable diseases:

- Breast cancer screening
- Cervical cancer screening
- Colon cancer screening
- Assessment of cardiovascular risk status
- Diabetes (II type)
- Screening of hearing and vision
- Screening of abdominal aorta aneurysm

Immunization

- Vaccination visits provided by the national calendar
- Seasonal vaccination for influenza (for persons over 50, or in case of presence of risk factors)
- B hepatitis, depending on related risks

Decisions related to periodicity, frequency and type of preventive screening are reached by the healthcare professionals of relevant competencies in compliance with Healthcare Standards of Detention and Correctional Facilities taking into consideration patient-related risks.

Planned inpatient and outpatient services

The purpose of planned inpatient and outpatient services is prevention, diagnosing, treatment of diseases and rehabilitation.

Planned outpatient services include:

➤ Specialized medical services, on the basis of referral of a doctor of PHC unit, as well as within the framework of planned treatment course.

Planned inpatient services include:

➤ Planned surgical services, which include all laboratory tests and instrumental examinations, as well as consultations with specialists. In the course of planned surgical services the duration of hospital length of stay of accused/convicted persons can be less than 24 hours (day hospital);

➤ Length of stay of the accused/convicted persons in inpatient type medical facilities for therapeutic treatment or diagnostic purposes may be longer than 24 hours.

Waiting Period

The period, that the accused/convicted person has to wait for planned medical services shall be defined taking into consideration medical needs of such persons and be of reasonable length, which in case of planned hospital services shall not exceed 4 months, while in case of planned outpatient services, shall not exceed 1 month. _

The above mentioned timeline may not be adhered to, in the event of objective reasons of postponing of planned treatment. Such reasons may be:

- Health condition of the accused/convicted person;
- Limited accessibility of required services/supplies;
- Objective delays in ensuring safety of the accused/convicted person;

The waiting time of accused/convicted persons for planned inpatient and outpatient services, as well as their order of priority is determined by special electronic software, maintained by the Medical Department of the Ministry of Corrections and Probation.

Emergency Inpatient and Outpatient services

Emergency inpatient and outpatient services include all those treatment and diagnostic activities, in the event of postponement or non-implementation of which the death, substantial restriction of physical or mental abilities, or grave deterioration of health condition of the accused/convicted person is inevitable.

➤ Emergency outpatient services are such services, when the accused/convicted person's length of stay in medical facility does not exceed 24 hours for the purpose of management and stabilization of emergency medical condition and in the event of necessity, his referral for treatment to inpatient medical facility;

➤ Emergency outpatient services are such services, when the accused/convicted person's length of stay in medical facility exceeds 24 hours for the purpose of his stabilization and maintenance/restoration of vital

Urgent medical care

Urgent medical care includes following services:

➤ Provision of urgent medical aid to the accused/convicted persons on the spot

- Stabilization on the spot
- In the event of necessity transportation of the accused/convicted persons to the nearest medical facility of relevant profile

Dental services

- Initial dental examination (part of initial medical examination), during which the overall condition of mouth cavity and the need of urgent dental assistance is determined.
- Initial preventive dental examination, which the accused/convicted person should undergo in dental office of the correctional institution after admission to correctional facility;
 - Planned and emergency dental services:
 - Therapeutic services
 - Inpatient surgical services;
 - Orthopedic services (removable dental prosthesis)

Mental Healthcare

Mental Healthcare Protection and Suicide Prevention Standard Covers the Following:

- Identification of mental healthcare needs (during initial medical screening);
 - Ensure continuity of treatment, started in civilian sector;
 - In the course of initial preventive screening complete evaluation of mental health status of the person by a psychiatrist;

- Routine preventive monitoring of mental health, conducted by a family doctor, and in the event of need, specialized diagnostic services are provided by a psychiatrist or a psychologist;
- Implementation of suicide prevention activities within the framework of suicide prevention program, implemented within the correctional system;
- Treatment, supervision and of persons with mental and behavioral disorders

Medication Provision

Accused/convicted persons are provided with medication free of charge, in accordance with prescription of physician and within the basic medicine list defined by the Penitentiary Healthcare Standard.

The list does not contain food and bio additives, medication prepared on the plant base, and cosmetics. The list contains medicinally active substances, is structured and covers all medicinal needs.

In the event, if the accused/convicted person expresses such desire, he has the right to buy at his own expense any medication, which shall substitute the medication included on the list with brand medication on the basis of physician's prescription.

Preventive and treatment services for the purpose of management of addiction of the accused/convicted persons

For the purpose of management of addiction of the accused/convicted persons are envisaged following preventive and treatment services:

- Full assessment of drug dependency and establishment of the record of drug use
- Identification of problem/high risk drug users in the course of admission of the accused/convicted persons in the correctional facilities
- Adequate and immediate medical intervention in the event of intoxication, overdose and agnostic conditions caused by use of medication under special control and other similar medication and substances
- In the event of identification of drug dependence and obtaining of consent of the drug dependent persons, immediate referral of such persons to detox and psycho-social rehabilitation services
- In the event of necessity provision of emergency and urgent medical care (in the event of overdose)
- Psycho-social rehabilitation program “Atlantis” implemented in correctional facilities

The penitentiary healthcare standard envisages phased expansion of addiction harm reduction services for the purpose of further improvement of accessibility of following services:

- Substitution therapy and other methods of treatment of addiction;

- Testing and consulting for HIV/AIDS
- Antiretroviral therapy
- Prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases
- Distribution of condoms to drug users and other high risk behavior groups
- Needle and syringe exchange programs
- Targeted educational and information campaigns
- Vaccination, diagnosing and treatment of viral hepatitis
- Prevention, diagnosing and treatment of TB

Additional Healthcare Service Standards for Accused/Convicted Women

In the process of placement of women accused/convicted persons in correctional facilities attention should be focused on collection and assessment of following information:

- Possible signs of violence and facts of violence, that the accused/convicted woman could have been subjected in the past (including information on the facts of sexual violence)
- Mental health status, especially PTSD syndrome, suicidal behavior and drug dependence
- In the course of admission in the correctional facility should be established the fact of pregnancy, expected labors, or the status of a breastfeeding mother
- In the course of initial screening of the accused/convicted women in the medical card should be reflected the history of reproductive health (pregnancy, labors, abortion and sexually transmitted diseases)

- In the event, if the Medical Department of the Ministry of Corrections and Probation receives information regarding the fact, that the accused/convicted woman is responsible for caring after the children of young age or elderly dependants, and due to the fact of her placement in correctional facility she is unable to perform this obligations, the Department is obligated to notify regarding this legal entity of public law Social Services Agency under the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection in accordance with the requirements, stipulated by the law
- Accused/convicted women have the right to request provision of services by the same sex physician/nurse
- accused/convicted women are provided with the means of personal hygiene, such as hygienic pads and etc, as well as relevant disposal opportunities and personal hygiene infrastructure

Services for Pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and women awaiting childbirth, placed in correctional facilities

Pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and women awaiting childbirth, placed in correctional facilities have access to following services:

- services related to physiological pregnancies, as well as complicated pregnancies, delivery and post-delivery period
- prenatal and postnatal care and screening for infections (HIV/AIDS, B hepatitis and syphilis), preventive measures of transmission of infections from mother to child are fully available in accordance to current national clinical guidelines, applicable on the territory of the country

- medical personnel of the institution is responsible to implement all necessary measures to ensure, that the accused/convicted women deliver in the medical facility of relevant profile
- It is inadmissible to use means of physical restrictions in regard to pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, women awaiting childbirth and women in post delivery period, placed in correctional institutions, except in cases, provided by the legislation of Georgia.

Young children of accused/convicted women

- Children under 3, staying with their accused/convicted mothers in correctional facility, undergo initial medical screening for the purpose of determination of medical needs and in the course of screening they are consulted by a family doctor and/or pediatrician
- To children under 3, staying with their accused/convicted mothers in correctional facility, shall be conducted immunization covered by the state healthcare program in accordance with National Immunization Calendar, as well as medical screening and relevant treatment, including early development services

Additional Healthcare Standards for Accused/convicted Juvenile Offenders

- Family doctor/pediatrician should offer full range of services, provided on the territory of the country for the purpose of assessment of child development and monitoring
- Immunization as provided by the National Immunization Calendar

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- In case of accused/convicted juvenile offenders special attention is paid to the following:
 - Early detection, treatment and prevention of communicable diseases (including sexually transmitted diseases)
 - Dental health
 - Addiction related and harm reduction services
 - Mental health services
 - Provision of opportunities of physical activities and development of cognitive skills

Additional Healthcare Standards for Elderly (geriatric) Accused/Convicted Persons

- Elderly convicted persons in the event of need shall have access to nurse care services
 - Services for hearing and vision impairment
 - Exoprosthesis for retaining of physical and mental health, vision and hearing

Additional Healthcare Standards for Persons with Mental Disorders and Disabilities

- At the stage of initial screening is established the mental health status and functional disabilities, for the purpose of taking into consideration specific needs of such persons immediately, which may imply provision of environment adapted to their needs, as well as provision of emergency care and separate placement

➤ If it is necessary to provide to the persons with disabilities special housing conditions in correctional facility, the conditions adapted to their needs shall be determined on the basis of assessment of functional abilities of such persons by the medical staff of the facility. Assessment of functional condition implies definition of abilities and capacities of a person to implement daily activities, take care of himself and his health and wellbeing on the basis of methodology, elaborated by the Medical Department of the Ministry of Corrections and Probation.

➤ Persons with disabilities are additionally provided with specific care, related to management of disability, including medication for maintaining stable condition, aids and exoprosthesis.

➤ Persons with mental disorders are provided with relevant in-patient and outpatient treatment, psycho-social rehabilitation, critical intervention services and medication.

➤ Accused/convicted persons with mental disabilities, who require intensive observation by medical specialists, are placed in specialized medical facilities with provision of relevant security measures, where relevant medical examinations and treatment is provided in in-patient settings.

➤ Compulsory treatment of persons with mental disorders is regulated by current law.

➤ Use of psychotropic medication is possible only upon prescription of a psychiatrist.

➤ Use of means of physical restriction in regard to the accused/convicted persons with mental disorders (isolation, restriction of mobility and etc) is conducted on the basis of personal decision of a physician.

➤ The accused/convicted persons and close relatives (on the

basis of informed consent) should have opportunity of obtaining detailed information and basic education in regard to mental disorders for the purpose of prevention of stigmatization and discrimination. Provided information shall help the accused/convicted persons and their family members to better understand emotional attitudes related to deprivation of liberty and reduce negative effect caused by imprisonment. They should also be informed where and how to get assistance in case of mental disorders.

The services not covered by the state- exceptions from penitentiary standards

The state shall not cover following services, provided within the penitentiary system – exceptions from penitentiary standards:

- Expenses related to medical services, that were not provided by medical necessity
- Treatment in other countries
- Provision of food supplements, biologically active additives and pharmaceutical products, not registered in Georgia
- Treatment without medical indication and prescription and self-treatment
- Treatment and services provided for aesthetic-cosmetic reasons
- Treatment in sanatoria and health resorts
- Expenses related to sexual dysfunctions and infertility
- Services funded by other state programs, that a convicted

person can have access to

- Organ transplantation
- Medical-social examination (unless it is necessary for provision of medical services)
- Forensic-medical examination (unless it is necessary for diagnosing, or due to administrative barriers within penitentiary system provision of medical services equivalent to civilian sector is impeded)

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