



VOLUME 1: GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	Effective Date: 08/2008
CHAPTER 29	Revision Date: 10/2015
1.29.1 DEATH REPORTING AND REVIEW PROGRAM POLICY	Attachments: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I. POLICY

California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) shall establish and maintain a Death Reporting and Review Program which shall be responsible for completing an independent review of every patient death which occurs within the custody of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

II. PURPOSE

To identify patterns of lapses in care related to the cause of death, determine opportunities for improvement in the delivery of health care, and meet mandated requirements of CCHCS policy and procedure and state and federal law.

III. DEFINITIONS

Lapse In Care: Any departure from the standard of care which poses a risk to patient safety.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Deputy Director (DD), Medical Services, and the DD, Nursing Services, have joint overall responsibility for compliance with this policy and associated procedure and are responsible for designating the Death Review Committee (DRC) clinical leadership and membership, and shall oversee its operation.

The Chief Executive Officer or designee of each institution is responsible for compliance with this policy and associated procedure and shall establish processes within the institution to carry out the requirements herein.

At least one of the DRC clinical Co-Chairpersons shall preside at all committee meetings, facilitate the clinical discussion, and govern meeting procedures.

The DRC administrative Co-Chairperson shall be a manager in the Death Reporting and Review Program and is responsible for scheduling all committee meetings and ensuring all motions, voting, and actions are taken in accordance with current, accepted meeting procedure and applicable CCHCS policies and procedures.

V. REFERENCES

- California Government Code, Title 2, Division 3, Part 2, Chapter 6, Article 2, Section 12525
- California Penal Code, Part 3, Title 7, Chapter 1, Section 5021
- California Penal Code, Part 3, Title 7, Chapter 2, Section 5058
- National Commission on Correctional Health Care, Standard P-A-10, Procedure in the Event of an Inmate Death

CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

- California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Department Operations Manual, Article 7, Sections 51070.1 through 51070.20
- Mental Health Services Delivery System Program Guide, Chapter 10, Suicide Prevention and Response, Section E, Suicide Reporting, and Section F, Suicide Death Review