

City of St. Louis Department of Public Safety/Division of Corrections
Policy and Procedures

CHAPTER:	4	Facility Operations	4. 2. 17
SECTION:	2	Health Services	EFFECTIVE DATE: 7 / 21 / 2020
SUBJECT:	17	Pregnancy Management Protocol	
STL-CTY - Board Bill No. 212 ; STANDARDS: ACA - 4 ALDF: 4C-13			
APPROVED: _____			REVIEW DATE: 7 / 21 / 20
Dale Glass COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONS			REVISION DATE: 7 / 30 / 20
Rescind: 4.2.17 dated 10/21/04 Cancel:			

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the St. Louis City Division of Corrections to provide physical and mental needs of pregnant inmates, including providing prenatal care nutrition, clothing, hygiene items, doula services, prenatal care, mental health care and all other related health services.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES

All Division of Corrections staff and contracted medical staff having contact with the female inmate population are responsible for adhering to the following procedures.

III. DEFINITIONS

Doula services: Services provided by a trained doula and designed to provide physical, emotional, or informational support to a pregnant woman before, during, and after delivery of a child. Doula services may include, but are not limited to: Support and assistance during labor and childbirth; prenatal and postpartum education breastfeeding assistance; parenting education; and support in the event that a woman has been or will become separated from her child.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. General Information

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1. All pregnant inmates receive access to pregnancy management protocols that includes pregnancy testing, routine and high-risk prenatal care, management of chemically addicted pregnant inmates, comprehensive counseling and assistance, appropriate nutrition, and postpartum follow-up.
2. Doula Services provided to inmates under this policy may not supplant health care services routinely provided to the inmate.
3. Where any provisions of this procedures and work rule conflicts with department policy including policy on restraint, use of force, inmate transport, or facility Post Order appertain to pregnancy management protocols, this policy shall prevail. The Correctional Officer will consult with the Supervisor prior to taking action.

B. Admission of Pregnant Arrestees

1. During intake and upon admission to the St. Louis City Jail, all female inmates or other inmates regardless of gender identity who have the capacity to become pregnant, will be screened and assessed for pregnancy by a licensed health care professional. (See Doc # 4.2.2: Health Examination and #4.2.5: Level I/II Medical Screening).
2. Each inmate shall be informed of any necessary medical tests connected with the pregnancy screening prior to the administration of such tests.
3. Pregnant inmates will receive nondirective counseling and brochures in a form the inmate can understand, on pregnancy options and division policies and practices regarding care and labor for pregnant inmates, including information about:
 - (a) The inmate's options with regard to her pregnancy,
 - (b) Prenatal nutrition,
 - (c) Maintaining a healthy pregnancy,
 - (d) Labor and delivery,
 - (e) The postpartum period,
 - (f) The institution's policies and practices regarding the care of an inmate during pregnancy, labor and delivery and the postpartum period, and
 - (g) Restrictions on the use of restraints on pregnant inmates.
4. At least one (1) member of the Division contracted medical staff is trained in pregnancy-related care, which shall include knowledge of prenatal nutrition, high-

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risk pregnancy, addiction and substance abuse during pregnancy and childbirth education.

C. Labor and Delivery

1. Patients in labor will be transported in a wheelchair while inside the facility. A pregnant inmate will receive labor and delivery care in a hospital. Throughout pregnancy and during post-delivery recuperation, as determined by the attending physician, an inmate shall be transported to and from visits to medical providers and court proceedings in a vehicle with seatbelts.
2. In any stage of pregnancy to include post delivery, waist restraints will not be used.
3. During labor and delivery, at least one Correctional Officer must be female. Exception regarding available staffing must be approved by Shift Supervisor or above. Patients in labor will be escorted by wheelchair while inside the facility.
4. Correctional Officer will be located in the room.
5. The contracted Health Services Administrator shall ensure that a pregnant inmate receives labor and delivery care in an accredited hospital.
6. Inmates in any stage of pregnancy to include post-delivery, as determined by a licensed health care professional, shall not have waist restraints, including during transportation.
7. The restraints used shall be the least restrictive available. A treating Physician may direct to use hospital restraints for the medical safety of the pregnant inmate. The treating physician shall indicate appropriate area of the body to place the restraint. Staff will comply with such directive from the attending medical provider and will notify the Shift Supervisor afterwards via, Telephone.
8. If the attending physician or nurse treating the pregnant inmate requests that restraints be removed for medical reasons, the Correctional Officer shall immediately remove all restraints, and will immediately notify the Shift Supervisor via, Radio or Telephone.
9. The Correction Officer is present in the room during the pregnant inmate's physical examinations, labor or childbirth; the officer must be female unless a female Corrections Officer is not available.

D. Doula Services

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1. The Division of Corrections will make reasonable accommodations for the provision of available Doula services to inmates who are pregnant or who have given birth when there is request for those services.
2. Persons providing doula services must be granted appropriate facility access,
3. Doula will be allowed to attend and aid during labor and childbirth
4. During post-delivery recuperation, inmates shall remain in the hospital until the attending physician certifies they may be safely discharged and transferred back to the correctional facility.

E. Care for Pregnant or Postpartum Inmates

1. A pregnant or postpartum inmate shall not be placed on Administrative segregation unless a documented determination is made that the inmate poses a serious risk of harm to self or others.
2. A pregnant and/or postpartum inmate shall be provided regular prenatal and postpartum medical care as indicated by healthcare provider. The inmate will receive diet containing the nutrients necessary to maintain a healthy pregnancy or post pregnancy as determined by a licensed health care provider trained in prenatal care, including prenatal vitamins and supplements; in addition to Postpartum screening for depression.
3. A licensed healthcare provider will determine high risk pregnancies or other medical complications consistent with National Commission on Correctional Health Care standards, for either the inmate or the baby; such inmate shall be immediately transferred to the emergency room/hospital or infirmary.
4. If a pregnant or postpartum inmate needs prenatal care or other pregnancy-related care that is not available at the division, the Health Services Administrator directs and approves the transportation of the inmate to an appropriate medical facility that can provide the care.
5. Pregnant and postpartum inmates shall be provided with, for free, and upon request the clothing, undergarments, and sanitary materials deemed appropriate by a licensed health care provider who has been trained in prenatal and postpartum medical care.
6. Postpartum inmates must be supplied with adequate materials for pumping and storing breast milk, upon request.
7. The Health Services Administrator will comply with Healthcare Contract which requires develop a lactation policy to ensure that postpartum lactating inmates have an opportunity to pump, store milk and transfer that milk in a timely manner

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to the person caring for and feeding the inmate's infant. Any delay in timely transfer of the milk must be documented and a report made and forwarded to Detention Center Superintendent on the same day.

- 8 If a Custody staff suspects that an inmate is suffering from depression, the inmate is referred to mental health staff. If a licensed health care professional determines that the inmate is suffering from postpartum depression, the inmate shall have regular access to mental health services. (See Doc # 4.2.18: Mental Health Services).

F. Personal Hygiene and Grooming

Access to feminine hygiene supplies shall be provided without restriction. These products will be free of charge and consist of all products noted by City Ordinance. These hygiene items will be made available in such a way that the inmate may access them without asking permission to do so. Inmates may request desired products be added to the list of items already provided by the Division.