



WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Policy and Procedure #4.322 Medical Adaptive Devices

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Authority: Wyoming Statute(s): 25-1-104; 25-1-105 ACA Standard(s): 4-4375-R NCCHC Standard(s): P-G-10	Effective Date: January 8, 2018 Revision/Review 09/30/16 History: 07/30/15 07/01/14 07/01/13 07/01/12
Cross Reference of Policy: P&P #4.337, <i>Oral Care</i>	Summary of Revision/Review: Updates existing policy pursuant to annual review.
Approved: R.O. Lampert Robert O. Lampert, Director	Supersedes Existing Policy : 1-2-18 Date

APPROVED FOR INMATE DISTRIBUTION

REFERENCE

1. ATTACHMENTS – None Noted
2. OTHER – None Noted



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I. PURPOSE

- A. **Provision of Medical Adaptive Devices.** The purpose of this policy and procedure is to provide for medical adaptive devices to inmates within the Wyoming Department of Corrections (WDOC) who have physical impairments.

II. POLICY

- A. **General Policy.** It is the policy of WDOC that medical and dental adaptive devices are provided when medically necessary as determined by the responsible health care practitioner. (ACA 4-4375 Revised)
1. Dental adaptive devices shall be issued in accordance with WDOC Policy and Procedure #4.337, *Oral Care*.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. **Aids to Impairment:** Devices which include, but are not limited to, eye glasses, hearing aids, canes, crutches, and wheelchairs.
- B. **Medical Adaptive Devices:** (*For this policy only.*) Prostheses, orthoses and other aids to impairment.
- C. **Orthoses:** Specialized mechanical devices, such as braces, foot inserts, or hand splints, used to support or supplement weakened or abnormal joints or limbs.
- D. **Prostheses:** Artificial devices to replace missing body parts such as limbs, teeth, eyes or heart valves.

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Vision Services

1. Inmates are screened for vision problems at the time of the health assessment. Inmates who report having difficulty with visual acuity will be offered a Snellen vision screening.
2. Inmates found to have visual acuity below 20/50 (both eyes together) and those who are unable to read printed material due to hyperopia will be referred to an optometrist for a more in-depth visual screening.



3. The contract medical provider only provides basic frames and lenses.
4. Inmates may receive replacement glasses when glasses wear out through no fault of the inmate.
 - i. Replacement glasses will be provided once every two (2) years.
 - a. Replacement glasses shall be provided through the contracted medical provider after refraction to determine the prescription needed.
 - b. Inmates shall not retain previous glasses once replacements are provided.
 - c. Broken glasses shall be confiscated and disposed of in accordance with P&P #3.006, *Property Control*.
 - d. New prescription will require new glasses using institutional eye care glasses for both lenses and frames.
 - i. Lenses shall not contain unnecessary upgrades.
 - e. Inmates shall not purchase new or replacement glasses from an outside vendor.
 - ii. Inmates who lose or damage glasses will be required to pay for the replacement of the eyeglasses, even if it is not their fault.
 - iii. The contract medical provider will pay for replacement glasses for indigent inmates.

B. Medical Adaptive Devices

1. Medical adaptive devices shall be supplied in a timely manner when the health of the inmate would otherwise be adversely affected, as determined by the responsible physician or dentist.
2. Medical adaptive devices will not be replaced unless defective or currently inadequate to fulfill its purpose.
3. Medical adaptive devices will not be prescribed for the primary purpose of cosmetics.



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4. Medical adaptive devices will be obtained following review and approval by the physician.
5. When a medical adaptive device is received, the inmate will sign a receipt assuming responsibility for care of the item. The receipt for medical adaptive device will be retained in the inmate's medical record.
6. Evidence that prescribed medical adaptive devices are received is confirmed through health record documentation.
7. Where the use of specific medical adaptive devices is contraindicated for security concerns, alternatives are considered so the health needs of the inmate are met.

V. TRAINING POINTS

- A. How often are replacement glasses provided to inmates?
- B. Would liposuction be allowed for under this policy?