San Diego County Sheriff's Department Detention Services Bureau - Manual of Policies and Procedures

DATE: JUNE 27, 2022

NUMBER: M.18

SUBJECT: MEDICATION PASS SECURITY

RELATED SECTIONS: M.19, M.35, MSD.D.1, MSD.M.12; Title VII of the USA

PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public

Law 109-177).

PURPOSE

Security and control will be provided during medication pass in Sheriff's detention facilities.

POLICY

Deputies and nurses will collaborate to ensure incarcerated persons receive medications in an organized and supervised manner. Incarcerated persons will ingest "watch take" medications as directed. Deputies will be responsible for reporting, in writing, any discovered contraband pharmaceuticals.

PROCEDURE

- I. Deputies will assist medication nurses by providing incarcerated person supervision during medication pass. In rare and exigent circumstances, as determined by the watch commander, the nurses can do medication pass without the assistance of a deputy.
- II. All oral medication administered to incarcerated persons will be considered a "watch take", except for medications designated as Keep On Person (KOP). Deputies shall make themselves available to assist the nurse in supervising all incarcerated persons being given "watch take" medication. All incarcerated persons requiring "watch take" will be required to take the medication with water to ensure that they have ingested the medication.
- III. Deputies will assist the medication nurses in doing a thorough check for ingestion of a medication. This includes, but is not limited to, the direct visualization of an incarcerated person's open mouth while lifting their tongue, checking the contents of the incarcerated person's drinking cup, as well as the incarcerated person showing the nurse/deputy their open hands.
- IV. Medication nurses will advise the deputy if an incarcerated person is suspected of "cheeking," hoarding and/or selling their medication.
- V. Sworn staff shall notify health staff if an incarcerated person is discovered to be, "cheeking,", hoarding and/or selling any medication. Sworn staff shall document these discoveries in a Jail Information Management System (JIMS) Inmate Status Report (ISR) or Rule Violation Report (RVR).

Health staff will utilize the ISR/RVR when presenting the incarcerated person's non-compliance to the reviewing or prescribing provider.