

DATE:	MARCH 7, 2022
NUMBER:	M.24
SUBJECT:	EMERGENCY SEDATION AND INVOLUNTARY MEDICATIONS
RELATED SECTIONS:	SDSD P&P SECTION 6.48 ; Addendum F

PURPOSE:

To establish guidelines and reporting procedures for the use of emergency sedation and administration of involuntary medications.

POLICY:

Emergency sedation is the administration of a rapid acting sedative intended to control an individual's violent behavior in a way that reduces self-injury or injury to others when other techniques have been ineffective in assisting the individual to regain control. It is a one-time administration of medication(s), at the direction of a prescriber (physician, nurse practitioner, psychiatrist, psychiatry nurse practitioner) that may be used for emergency behavioral health management in compliance with Medical Services Division (MSD) Operations Manual section G.3.1.

Incarcerated persons may receive involuntary medication pursuant to a court-ordered conservatorship for the purpose of ongoing care and treatment, or pursuant to a court ordered finding of incompetence, authorizing involuntary medication.

PROCEDURE:

I. EMERGENCY SEDATION

- A. Sworn and health staff may consult on the recommendation for use of emergency sedation; however, sedatives must be ordered by a prescriber prior to administration.
- B. The watch commander will be notified prior to any instances where an individual needs to be given a sedative. All emergency sedation administrations will be performed under the direct supervision of the watch commander or designee.
- C. Health staff shall prepare the sedative in a syringe with a needle-based safety device or retractable needle.
- D. Deputies may use appropriate measures to restrain an individual during health staff's injection of the sedative consistent with Addendum F and San Diego Sheriff's Department Policy and Procedure (SDSD P&P) section 6.48.
 - 1. During an emergency sedation administration, a safety deputy shall be assigned. The safety deputy's sole responsibility is to monitor the health and safety of the incarcerated person receiving the injection.
 - 2. The administration of emergency sedation shall be digitally recorded on a portable device.

- E. A post-sedative disposition plan should be considered (e.g., safety cell, enhanced observation housing, emergency department, etc.).
- F. Administration of an emergency sedation will be documented in a "Use of Force" report in NetRMS. An Inmate Status Report (ISR) referencing the use of force report will also be documented in the Jail Information Management System (JIMS).

II. INVOLUNTARY MEDICATIONS

- A. Medications administered on an involuntary basis must be prescribed by a physician.

In accordance with MSD Operations Manual Section G.3.4 and California Code of Regulations Title 15 section 1217, Health Staff shall be responsible for administering an incarcerated persons treatment medication plan.

- B. Prior to the administration of involuntary medications, individuals shall be given the opportunity to take the prescribed medications compliantly.
 - 1. If the individual consents to taking the medication (no physical resistance/no force was used):
 - a. Health staff shall prepare the medication in oral form or in a syringe with a needle-based safety device or retractable needle.
 - b. The medication administration will be documented in an ISR in JIMS. The ISR shall include names and identifying information of the health staff administering the medication and the type of administration method (i.e., pill, injection).
 - 2. If an individual refuses to take the medication:
 - a. The watch commander shall be notified. All non-compliant involuntary medication administrations shall be performed under the direct supervision of the watch commander or designee.
 - b. Health staff shall prepare the medication in a syringe with a needle-based safety device or retractable needle.
 - c. Deputies may use appropriate measures to restrain the individual during health staff's administration of the medication, consistent with Addendum F and SDSD P&P section 6.48.
 - i. A safety deputy shall be assigned. The safety deputy's sole responsibility is to monitor the health and safety of the individual receiving the injection.
 - ii. The non-compliant involuntary medication administration shall be digitally recorded on a portable device. The recording shall include the request by health staff for the incarcerated person to take the

medication, admonishments given by sworn supervisors that force may be used, and the actual administration of the medication.

- d. Non-compliant involuntary medication administration will be documented in NetRMS and in JIMS. All reports for non-compliant involuntary medication administration shall include names and identifying information of the health staff administering the medication, names and identifying information of sworn supervisors present, name and identifying information of the safety deputy, any photographs taken, and video recordings of the incident.
 - i. If no force is used, a "Miscellaneous Report" will be completed in NetRMS and an ISR referencing the miscellaneous report will be completed in JIMS.
 - ii. If force is used, a "Use of Force Report" will be completed in NetRMS and an ISR referencing the use of force report will be completed in JIMS.