

Chapter: Medical Consent
Title: Refusal of Treatment by Youth

Effective Date: 7/15/11, T-1
Page: 1 of 1
Replaces: HHS.70.10
Dated: 5/1/06

ACA Standard(s): N/A

(a) **Standard.**

All youth have the right to refuse any examination, and/or any medical, dental, psychiatric, or nursing treatment, except that which is considered life-threatening or which may jeopardize the health of others. Every effort should be made by health care staff or other childcare staff as appropriate to encourage the youth to accept treatment.

(b) **Procedures.**

- (1) Document all efforts to explain the importance of the treatment refused.
Person Responsible: Human Services Specialist (HSS) / Juvenile Correctional Officer (JCO)
- (2) Complete the Refusal Form, HLS-520, including the reason for the refusal.
Person Responsible: HSS/JCO
- (3) Instruct the youth to sign the HLS-520 form. If the youth refuses to sign the form, obtain the signature of a second JCO verifying the refusal.
Person Responsible: HSS/JCO
- (4) Scan the HLS-520 form into the Electronic Medical Record.
Person Responsible: Nurse
- (5) If the refusal is for medication, document as such in PRS.
Person Responsible: HSS/JCO
- (6) When refusal of treatment is life threatening or a danger to self or others (such as refusal of insulin or seizure medication), immediately notify the superintendent and health services administrator (HSA), who will contact the prescribing physician for instructions.
Person Responsible: HSA/HSS/JCO
- (7) Offer two (2) subsequent opportunities for the youth to comply. If the youth refuses three consecutive doses of the same medication and the missed doses are not life-threatening, document as above, notify the superintendent, and contact the nurse for direction.
Person Responsible: HSS/JCO/Nurse
- (8) Contact the appropriate medical provider and request that he/she fax any new orders, if applicable.
Person Responsible: Nurse
- (9) Notify the parent/guardian and the TYC director of nursing, who will notify the TYC medical director.
Person Responsible: Superintendent
- (10) Notify the UTMB director of clinical and administrative programs for youth services, who will notify the UTMB CMC medical director.
Person Responsible: HSA

***NOTE: Do NOT use physical force or restraint to administer medication refused by youth.**
