NORTHERN NEVADA ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: AIDS/HIV

NUMBER: NN-IC-01

ORIGINAL DATE: 12/14/88

REVIEW/REVISE DATE: 04/18/89, 01/11/90, 11/01/91, 12/08/92, 04/14/93, 07/28/93, 05/02/96, 03/04/99, 12/09/99, 08/07/03, 08/03/06, 5/21/09, 12/22/10

APPROVAL: Rosalyne Reynolds {s}, Agency Director

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish and implement guidelines for the admission of consumers who may have HIV/AIDS.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS) to assure that individuals with AIDS/HIV will be admitted to NNAMHS in accordance with the same criteria as all other consumers. There will be no discrimination due to their HIV/AIDS status in regards to services provided. The Infection Control Officer shall report cases by telephone follow up or in writing to the Washoe County District Health Department as required by NRS 441.110.

III. REFERENCES

NNAMHS Policy NN-IC-03	Infection Control Committee
NNAMHS Policy NN-IC-04	Employee Health—Communicable Disease Prevention
NNAMHS Policy NN-IC-07	Standard (Universal) Precautions
NNAMHS Policy NN-IC-08	Tuberculosis Control

NNAMHS Policy NN-IC-19 Post-Exposure Evaluation and Follow-up

NNAMHS Policy NN-IC-20 Preventing Toxic and Hazardous Substance Exposure

NNAMHS Policy NN-PC-AD-01 Inpatient Admission Criteria

Federal Civil Rights Laws - Department of Health and Human Services

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Bloodborne Pathogens Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030, 1992

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

HIPAA Privacy Rule

IV. DEFINITIONS

1. AIDS: AIDS is a chronic, potentially life threatening condition caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). By damaging your immune system, HIV interferes with your body's ability to fight the organisms that cause disease.

2. HIV: The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is the virus that leads to AIDS. HIV belongs to a subset of retroviruses called lentiviruses (or slow viruses), which means that there is an interval, sometimes years, between the initial infection and the onset of symptoms. Upon entering the bloodstream, through mucous membranes or blood-to-blood contact, HIV infects the CD4+T cells and begins to replicate rapidly.

V. PROCEDURE

1. Serological Testing

   A. For consumers who are in a high risk group, the medical staff may order serological testing for HIV.

   B. A consent form, MR-142, shall be obtained from all consumers before undergoing HIV testing.

i. Routinely, the unit nurse or social worker assigned to the consumer is responsible for obtaining a consent signed by the consumer. The health clinic physician is available to counsel the consumer about the results.

ii. It is the responsibility of the unit nurses to be sure the consent is signed prior to sending the consumer to the laboratory. Any prescribing clinician or registered nurse can counsel the consumer if the clinic physician or nurse is unable to do this.

C. The completed form is filed in the consumer's medical record.

D. The attending clinician will notify the consumer of the test results and counsel him/her in regards to transmission, symptoms and provide appropriate referrals.

E. If the consumer refuses consent, the attending clinician will be notified of the consumer's refusal. A supporting progress note regarding the consumer's refusal shall be charted.

2. Employee Responsibilities

A. AIDS/HIV infected employees who are aware of their status are responsible for conducting themselves in such a fashion as to not unreasonably risk exposure to fellow employees or to consumer. This may entail sharing that information with the employer. Proper steps will be taken to protect identity and honor confidentiality.

B. Employees are expected to perform their normal work duties with co-workers or members of the public with whom they have contact who have AIDS/HIV.