



VOLUME 10: PUBLIC HEALTH AND INFECTION CONTROL	Effective Date: 01/2016
CHAPTER 11	Revision Date:
10.11.1 COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS WAIVER POLICY	Attachments: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I. POLICY

Patients who are medically restricted from the Coccidioidomycosis (Cocci) 2 area, who are NOT medical high risk AND do NOT have a negative cocci skin test are permitted to waive the medical restriction from residence in the Cocci 2 area. Patients meeting these criteria may waive their medical restriction at any time and may do so regardless of their current housing location. Prior to waiving their medical restriction, patients must be fully informed of the morbidity and mortality risks of waiving the medical restriction.

Patients may rescind the waiver of the medical restriction at any time. Within 60 days of rescinding of the waiver, patients with waivers who reside in the Cocci 2 area shall be moved out of the Cocci 2 area.

Waivers for medical restrictions from the Cocci 2 area shall become invalid when patients either have a negative cocci skin test or become medical high risk (e.g., when a patient turns 65 years of age).

Patients with a history of cocci are not restricted from residing in the Cocci 2 area and thus do not need to sign waivers to reside in the Cocci 2 area.

II. PURPOSE

To formalize a process that permits certain patients with medical restrictions for the Cocci 2 area to waive the medical restrictions and thus permit these patients to reside in Cocci 2 institutions despite the medical restriction in the medical classification system. This policy stipulates that those who test negative and those with high risk medical conditions may not waive their medical restriction and cannot reside in an institution in the Cocci 2 area.

III. DEFINITIONS

Coccidioidomycosis 2 Area: Institutions that pose the highest risk of cocci exposure. The specific institutions in this area are outlined in the Inmate Medical Services Policies and Procedures, Volume 4, Chapter 29.2, Medical Classification System Procedure, Appendix I.

Coccidioidomycosis 2 Restriction: A medical restriction based on a combination of a history of cocci disease, medical high risk, negative cocci skin test results (if tested), race (e.g., African-American or Filipino), and medical conditions (e.g., diabetes mellitus); patients with a Cocci 2 restriction are designated as such in the cocci risk registry managed by Quality Management.

Coccidioidomycosis Skin Test: The skin test used to determine hypersensitivity reaction to the spherulin antigen (a component of the fungus that causes cocci).

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Medical High Risk: Patients who have a medical risk designated as high as defined by the Quality Management registry.

IV. APPLICABILITY

Health care staff must provide the morbidity and mortality risk information to all patients who request a waiver, as delineated in the procedure for this policy. All waivers must be honored until rescinded by the patient, or until the patient develops a condition which prevents medical restriction from the Cocci 2 area from being waived.

V. RESPONSIBILITY

The Chief Executive Officer or designee of each institution is responsible for developing a local operating procedure to ensure both the policy and procedure are followed.

VI. REFERENCES

- *Plata v. Brown*, Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Relief Re: Valley Fever at Pleasant Valley and Avenal State Prisons, June 24, 2013
- California Correctional Health Care Services, Inmate Medical Services Policies and Procedures, Volume 4, Chapter 29, Medical Classification System Policy and Procedure