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NCCHC Certified Correctional Health Professional



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Question: 1

A jail's chronic disease program is under review. Enrolment records are accurate for patients admitted directly from the community, treatment plans exist for every enrolled patient, and clinic sessions are well attended. However, patients transferred in from other facilities are frequently not enrolled until a symptom prompts a request.

Which conclusion follows?

- A. The program has an entry-point gap, because transfer arrivals are not being screened into it
- B. The program has a documentation gap, because treatment plans are missing for transferred patients
- C. The program has a capacity gap, because the clinic cannot absorb the patients transferred in
- D. The program has an adherence gap, because transferred patients wait until symptoms appear

Answer: A

Question: 2

A patient at a juvenile facility screens positive on the mental health screening completed after admission.

What is the appropriate next step?

- A. Placement of the patient on observation status until the next mental health clinic session
- B. Assignment of the patient to the caseload of the nurse who completed the screening, for follow-up
- C. Repetition of the screening at a later date to confirm that the initial result was accurate
- D. Referral to a qualified mental health professional for evaluation within the program's process

Answer: D

Question: 3

A patient's initial health assessment at a prison identifies a chronic condition that was not disclosed at receiving screening.

What should follow from this finding?

- A. The receiving screening form is amended and re-signed so that the two records show consistent information
- B. The finding is noted for review at the patient's next scheduled health care encounter
- C. The condition is documented and the patient is enrolled in ongoing chronic care management

D. The patient is referred back for a repeat receiving screening, and a repeat history, to capture the condition

Answer: C

Question: 4

A prison's health services program employs nurses, a physician and a mental health clinician. The responsible health authority is asked what the program owes these staff by way of professional development.

Which arrangement best meets that expectation?

- A. The continuing education each professional requires in order to renew a licence, arranged by the individual concerned
- B. Continuing education for health staff, relevant both to their own disciplines and to correctional practice
- C. Attendance at the facility's annual custody in-service training, which covers the facility's operations and its rules
- D. Orientation to the health services policies of the facility, repeated whenever the policy manual has been revised

Answer: B

Question: 5

At a prison, mental health clinicians record their notes in a separate system that the facility's medical clinicians cannot see. A patient attends the medical clinic for a physical complaint, and the clinician who sees the patient has no visibility of the mental health care that the patient is currently receiving.

What is the principal problem with this arrangement?

- A. Mental health information is more sensitive than other health information, so it needs a higher level of protection than the medical record offers
- B. Mental health clinicians are being asked to maintain a record system that duplicates work already recorded in the medical record
- C. The facility will not be able to demonstrate at review that its mental health services are documented to the same standard as medical care
- D. The patient's care is being delivered from two records that no clinician sees together, so nobody is treating the patient as a whole

Answer: D

Question: 6

The responsible health authority for a small jail is off site on several days of each week.
Which arrangement best reflects what is expected of designated health staff during those periods?

- A. The custody shift supervisor takes on the health authority's duties until the health authority returns
- B. Each nurse on duty decides individually which of the health authority's duties to carry out that day
- C. A qualified health care professional is designated on site with clearly defined authority for health decisions
- D. Health decisions are held over until the responsible health authority is next physically present on site

Answer: C

Question: 7

Which description best fits the oral care expectations for a correctional health services program?

- A. Referral to a community dentist for examination, treatment, and follow-up whenever a request is submitted
- B. Oral screening, education, and access to dental treatment as part of the health program
- C. Extraction by the visiting dentist when a patient reports pain, with other dental work arranged after release
- D. Provision of oral hygiene supplies through the facility commissary, for purchase by patients

Answer: B

Question: 8

On what basis should a correctional facility's clinical preventive services be determined?

- A. Recognised national preventive care guidance applied to the facility's patient population
- B. The conditions most frequently recorded in the facility's disciplinary and incident reports
- C. The requests submitted by patients through the nonemergency health care request process
- D. The preferences of the facility's contracted health care vendor and its available budget

Answer: A

Question: 9

A prison health services administrator is asked to justify the health staffing plan. The facility's population has grown, an infirmary has opened, and the number of patients enrolled in chronic care has risen sharply.

Which basis for the staffing plan is most defensible?

- A. The staffing pattern used by a comparable prison of similar size and mission within the same system
- B. The number of health care requests received and triaged in the most recent reporting month
- C. The staffing level in place before the population grew, adjusted for the facility's budget
- D. The required services of the program measured against the demand of the current population

Answer: D

Question: 10

A disciplinary hearing is convened for a patient at a jail. The hearing officer asks the treating clinician to attend and state whether the patient's mental health condition should reduce the sanction imposed. What is the most appropriate role for the clinician?

- A. Provide the patient's full clinical record, so that the hearing officer can weigh it directly
- B. Recommend a reduced sanction, since the treating clinician understands the condition best
- C. Provide health information relevant to the patient's participation, without recommending a sanction
- D. Decline to take any part, since disciplinary hearings are entirely a custody function

Answer: C

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