

Oklahoma Department of Corrections
Unclassified Job Descriptor

LEAD PSYCHIATRIST

Basic Purpose:

Under general direction, performs professional work in the diagnosis and treatment of mental health patients in a correctional facility and provides clinical supervision of all staff and contract psychiatrists for the department.

Typical Functions:

- Responsible for the psychiatric medical management of the inmates at the institution(s) assigned; examines, diagnoses, and treats all inmates who present signs and symptoms of mental illness; routinely re-evaluates and re-examines all inmates on psychotropic medication on a regular appropriately timed basis.
- Provides regular on-call coverage and relief on-call coverage as needed.
- Gives appropriate medical orders to the paraprofessional staff of health care providers and mental health personnel.
- Evaluates existing treatment programs and makes recommendations of revisions of programs to the chief mental health officer.
- Assists the chief mental health officer in developing and implementing mental health policies and procedures to be used at the assigned institution; developing standards of care compatible with the standards recommended for mental health services by the American Correctional Association and other appropriate national standards of care.
- Assists wardens, administrative, and correctional staff in the understanding and supervision of those inmates with mental health problems; and provides in-service education for other health care personnel, psychology personnel, and correctional custody officials as needed.
- Participates in quality improvement activities as assigned.
- Keeps abreast of modern developments in mental health treatment and remains able to set the course for a health care team.
- Reviews psychotropic medical utilization and, in conjunction with the chief mental health officer and other medical services administrators, issues guidelines for the formulary.

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Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

Knowledge of principles and practices of applied psychiatry and of the use of psycho pharmacological medications in correctional settings; skills in establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with others; in exercising independent judgment; in analyzing a situation and adopting an effective course of action is successfully diagnosing, clarifying, and treating patients in an acceptable manner; and in interpreting complex instructions, both oral and written. Knowledge of basic principles of management and supervision.

Education and Experience:

Statutorily Required: N/A

Minimum Qualifications: A bachelor's Degree in psychology, sociology, social work, criminology, counseling, education, criminal justice, or related field and four (4) years of professional level correctional experience or an equivalent combination of education and experience.