

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Impact of crack cocaine, other illicit drugs and alcoholism is significant.

In fact, a recent survey of detainees in intake screen for the presence of drugs in the urine revealed that Philadelphia had one of the highest rates in the country, as high as 75-80 percent.

An optimal drug and alcohol program in prison health includes the following:

1. Adequate intake and screening.
2. Adequate detoxification facilities.
3. Therapeutic community in the facility to do 24 hours/day treatment.
4. Therapeutic groups for support and counseling.
5. Move clients in community-based programs with adequate support and case management.

HIV

1. AACO offers education and counseling to every inmate, as well as voluntary screening.
 2. Optimally, there is the need for HIV specialty clinic on site, and the purpose will be to:
 - institute protocols
 - begin prophylactic Rx against opportunistic infections
 - follow patients for chronic medical concerns
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NOTE: Prisoners are received from Police custody on a 24-hour per day, 7 day per week basis, with a total of 23,000 inmates received into the system on an annual basis. Women are admitted directly to the Women's Detention Facility.

TB

- No hard data in Philadelphia Prisons.
- We believe figure in terms of positivity rate is as low as 8% (general population) and as high as 20%

We are finalizing our comprehensive TB plan city wide, but the major components of a prison TB initiative include:

1. Screening of all new detainees.
 2. Screening and review of all current inmates.
 3. Immediate hospital of any detainee or inmate suspected of having active TB.
 4. Use of an infectious disease nurse to identify and follow suspected cases of TB; as well as the establishment of a TB specialty in the Detention Center.
 5. Establishment of clear treatment protocols for the administration of anti-TB medication, with emphasis on compliance and DOT. Treatment usually takes 6-12 months.
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CHRONIC DISEASE

Asthma, hypertension, diabetes, epilepsy - require education of the patient, health promotion, close follow-up, administration of medications are all important mental health service delivery.

In sum, at a time when health care in inner city neighborhoods is a national disaster, this may be the first time in the lives of inmates that they will have access to consistent quality medical care.
