



Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann
Irish Prison Service

OIP Recommendations Action Plan

Proposed Recommendation from the Inspector of Prisons investigation report on Death in Custody of prisoner Mr A in Wheatfield Prison on 01012021

The Recommendations submitted by the OIP have been reviewed and considered. The table below is a summary of proposed actions based on the investigation of the OIP in respect of the Irish Prison Service. The table also suggest timelines and action owners for completing the necessary actions.

No.	OIP Recommendation	Irish Prison Service Response	Action Required	Action Owner	Timeline
1	Where there is suspicion that a prisoner has become unwell due to the ingestion of an illicit substance, all occupants of the cell should receive a thorough medical assessment.	Noted	Procedures for the management of prisoners suspected of internally concealing any prohibited article or substance and associated healthcare interventions are included in relevant SOPs. Where there is concern or suspicion that other occupants of the cell are intoxicated they will also be clinically assessed to determine whether they require any health intervention, with the necessary risk assessment and clinical care plan.	Care & Rehabilitation & Operations	Complete
2	If it is suspected that a prisoner removed from a cell, following a suspected overdose, may be concealing drugs internally (for example, because no drugs were found during a thorough cell search),	Noted	The Close Supervision Cell SOP specifically references that if a prisoner is suspected of internally concealing any prohibited article or substance they shall be seen by Healthcare for medical assessment and may be placed under medical special observations in accordance with Rule 102. Where a prisoner suspected of internally concealing any prohibited article or	Care & Rehabilitation & Operations	Complete



	health care professionals should take the lead in decision making regarding the supervision and care of that person. All such decisions should include a recorded risk assessment.		substance is placed under medical observation, a nurse will check the prisoner at intervals as determined by their clinical presentation. The nurse must elicit a response from the prisoner at each assessment. Where no response is elicited, the cell should be opened and the prisoner should be physically examined by the nurse. Healthcare staff will record all assessments on PHMS. Security checks continue as per CSC SOP.		
3	If it is deemed necessary to isolate a person from the general prison population because of a suspicion that they have internally secreted drugs or other items of contraband, they should be subject to medical, not security, observation – including at night – irrespective of whether they are held in a Special Observation Cell (SOC), Close Supervision Cell (CSC) or separation cell.	Noted	The Close Supervision Cell SOP specifically references that if a prisoner is suspected of internally concealing any prohibited article or substance they shall be seen by Healthcare for medical assessment and may be placed under medical special observations in accordance with Rule 102. Where a prisoner suspected of internally concealing any prohibited article or substance is placed under medical observation, a nurse will check the prisoner at intervals as determined by their clinical presentation. The nurse must elicit a response from the prisoner at each assessment. Where no response is elicited, the cell should be opened and the prisoner should be physically examined by the nurse. Healthcare staff will record all assessments on PHMS. Security checks continue as per CSC SOP.	Care & Rehabilitation & Operations	Complete
4	The Irish Prison Service should explore the viability of providing 'chest compression machines' to assist staff who are administering CPR.	Accepted	Lucas machines have been purchased for Limerick, Castlerea and Midlands Prisons in addition to Loughan House and Shelton Abbey Open Centres. The necessary training has also been provided. The balance of the machines are on order and the Irish Prison Service will also coordinate training for these locations.	Care & Rehabilitation	Ongoing