

Engagement and Outreach

Washington State Department of Corrections

Care Review Committee and Appeal Process

What is the Care Review Committee?

The Care Review Committee (CRC) is a group of DOC primary care physicians, dentists and other health professionals that review the medical necessity of proposed health care. The CRC is how DOC ensures health care services given to incarcerated individuals are acceptable.

The CRC reviews cases and the proposed treatment and either allows or denies the authorization. If treatment is approved by the CRC, Health Services Utilization Management monitors the hospital length of stay, case management and treatment guidelines, and audits the billed charges for services. The Washington Administrative Code, WAC 137-91-030, regulates the CRC.

How do I appeal an initial CRC denial?

It depends on whether your initial denial is from the facility level or the CRC. If the denial is from the **facility level**, send a kite to the provider or Facility Medical Director to ask for further review or to seek a resolution for it to be investigated further. Resolutions can take a long time, so you can also request the CRC to review the case and make a decision.

If you or the provider requests the case to be reviewed by the CRC and it is denied, you can appeal the CRC denial within 5 business days of receiving DOC Form 13-182 (CRC notification). You also can appeal the CRC decision that goes to the Chief Medical Officer or designee through DOC Form 13-579 (HQ CRC appeal).

The original DOC Form 13-579 can be delivered to a Health Services Manager at your facility or mailed to:

**HQ CRC Appeals Committee
Department of Corrections
PO Box 41123
Olympia, WA 98504-1123**

When mailing this form, make sure you send the original and keep the yellow copy for your records.

How do I request DOC Form 13-182 (CRC notification) and Form 13-579 (HQ CRC appeal)?

Send a kite to the health services unit to request a copy of the CRC outcome notification form and appeal form.

For more information about DOC Health Services:

Send a kite to the health services unit at your facility with any questions or to request a copy of the DOC Health Plan or the Health Services Orientation Handbook.