

COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONAL MEDICINE

Committee: 06.20

SUBJECT: Annual Report

SUBMITTED BY: Marc O. Wall, M.D.

REFERRED TO: Not Referred

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1 The Medical Association of Georgia (MAG) created its Committee on Correctional Medicine in 1975 –  
2 following the prison riots in Attica, New York, and just before the Georgia state prison system was placed  
3 under the jurisdiction of the federal courts for maintaining health care facilities that violated a  
4 constitutional prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment.

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6 MAG was charged with “studying and recommending ways to improve the delivery of health care in  
7 Georgia non-federal prisons.” It developed standards for evaluating health care in jails and prisons in the  
8 state as part of a national initiative, which evolved into the standards that are now used by the National  
9 Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC).

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11 MAG developed legislation in 1982 that resulted in an accreditation system for the health care programs  
12 at correctional facilities in Georgia. The state began funding the system in 1983. Additional information  
13 on MAG’s Correction Medicine program can be found online at [www.mag.org/correctionalmedicine](http://www.mag.org/correctionalmedicine).

14  
15 MAG surveys the health care programs at more than 50 correctional facilities. Each facility is surveyed  
16 every three years – and each facility completes an accreditation maintenance report during the interim  
17 years.

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19 MAG is credited with addressing major deficiencies at jails and prisons in the state, including those that  
20 have been related to:

- 21  
22 – Physician and nurse licensure  
23 – Physician and nurse CPR/ACLS certification  
24 – Expired pharmaceuticals and medical supplies  
25 – Needle and narcotics security  
26 – Nurse call systems  
27 – Inmate physicals  
28 – Health records and appointments  
29 – Inmate access to care  
30 – Infection control practices  
31 – Mandatory CQI and infection control meetings

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33 [Listen to 'Top Docs' radio show on MAG's Correctional Medicine Program](#)

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35 The Committee on Correctional Medicine meets quarterly under the leadership of Chairman Marc O.  
36 Wall, M.D., of Cedartown, Georgia. Dr. Wall is a long-standing member of MAG and the Committee on  
37 Correctional Medicine. He previously served as Vice Chairman and was appointed Chairman in March  
38 2017. Charles A. Meyer, Jr., M.D., of Evans, Georgia, is also a long-standing member of MAG and the  
39 Committee on Correctional Medicine. Dr. Meyer was appointed Vice Chairman in July 2017.

1 Members of the Committee on Correctional Medicine continue to be involved in MAG's survey of  
2 correctional facilities. Members make recommendations to the Committee on Correctional Medicine  
3 regarding accreditation for facilities. MAG's Correctional Medicine program uses several consultants  
4 regularly, both Committee on Correctional Medicine members and outside consultants, to conduct  
5 accreditation surveys.

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7 Revenue for the Correctional Medicine program is generated from accreditation fees and is used to pay  
8 consultants and expenses related to surveys and accreditation.

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10 NCCHC publishes the *Standards for Health Services in Prisons* and the *Standards for Health Services in*  
11 *Jails*. MAG's Committee on Correctional Medicine endorses and uses the standards to measure  
12 compliance for accreditation purposes. If noncompliance in standards are observed, MAG's Committee  
13 on Correctional Medicine makes recommendations that they believe will improve the quality of care.

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15 The Committee on Correctional Medicine publishes the *MAG Accreditation Standards for Jails*, which is  
16 designed to be used primarily in jails with an average daily population of less than 200 individuals.  
17 MAG's Committee on Correctional Medicine is in the process of updating these standards. It is  
18 anticipated that these standards, which are user friendly, will be adopted by many jails within the state. It  
19 is the hope of the Committee on Correctional Medicine that these same jails will then seek to become  
20 accredited by MAG.

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22 MAG's physician surveyors spend a great amount of time surveying correctional facilities to confirm that  
23 they meet the required standards. Our special thanks to them for their effort and time given to accomplish  
24 these surveys.

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26 The Committee on Correctional Medicine appreciates the continuing support given by MAG and  
27 respectfully submits this report as information for this year.

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29 Committee on Correctional Medicine members:

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31 Marc O. Wall, M.D., Chairman  
32 Charles A. Meyer, Jr., M.D., Vice Chairman  
33 Bethanne F. Jenks, M.D.  
34 Dilipkumar Patel, M.D.  
35 Quentin R. Pirkle, Jr., M.D.  
36 Michael L. Rogers, M.D.

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38 Physician surveyors:

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40 Bethanne F. Jenks, M.D.  
41 Charles A. Meyer, M.D.  
42 Quentin R. Pirkle, Jr., M.D.  
43 Michael L. Rogers, M.D.  
44 Marc O. Wall, M.D.

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46 MAG staff:

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48 Andrew J. Baumann, Director of Accreditation

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