

How to Request Medical Care in TDCJ

<http://www.texascivilrightsproject.org/?p=1272>

A report on medical care put out in 2011 by the Texas Civil Rights Project. If you need some information for your input to the Sunset Review staff this report has some good recommendations.

http://www.texascivilrightsproject.org/docs/thinline/tcrp_thinline_2011.pdf

“A THIN LINE”

The Texas Prison Healthcare Crisis and The Secret Death Penalty

‘Texas incarcerates approximately 154,000 people in 112 Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) prisons around the state. The Federal Constitution requires Texas to provide basic medical care for prisoners’ serious medical conditions. In the past, federal courts have had to monitor Texas prisons for grossly failing to meet this basic humane obligation.’

The following suggestions are from Con-care

- 1) Be sure a proper medical release signed by your husband is in his file. (It will be put on his electronic file in the computer. I have a form if you need one or I can send it to your husband.) One family member should **always** have an updated release (every 6 mos.) in the loved one's file.
- 2) Write a letter **now** to the Unit Practice Manager. Explain that you are going to call to discuss your husband's condition and learn of any treatment he is scheduled to have and what you can do to help. (This is a new requirement that TDCJ has initiated. Without this previous "head's up letter," the nurse or practice manager does not have to talk to you.)
- 3) When you are sure that the release is in his file, make the call and ask the questions.