

Cochise County Medical Director

“A physician who oversees the medical care and other designated care and services in a health care organization or facility. Under these regulations, the medical director is responsible for coordinating medical care and helping to develop, implement and evaluate resident care policies and procedures that reflect current standards of practice.”

-Department of Health & Human Services

Typical Duties of Cochise County's Medical Director

• **Detention Health Services:**

- Consultations for on-site Provider
- Review of Policy and Procedure at least annually
- Review and sign-off of nurse protocols
- Review and sign-off of formulary at least annually
- Review and response of Level II Grievance Appeals
- Attends monthly staff meetings
- Participates in Mortality Reviews
- Quality assurance
- Provides oversight and licensing for MOUD program
- Provides oversight and support for special projects or resource intense issues
- Holds the DEA license for the jail to allow ordering of all stock medications
- Is the sole credentialed provider via pharmacy to order stock-controlled medications
- Covers one week each month of provider on-call allowing on-site provider relief
- Clinical advisement and liability support

• **Clinical Services:**

- 24/7 on-call for clinical cases
- Oversight of TB testing and treatment
- Immunization oversight
- Reviews complex or high-risk patient care
- Development and review of protocols/procedures
- Quality assurance
- Provides education/training
- Provides compliance with state/federal regulations
- Clinical advisement and liability support
- Development and oversight of standing orders

• **Environmental Health:**

- Guidance on environmental health, epidemiology and foodborne related cases

• **Public Health Emergency Preparedness:**

- Presents at Cochise County Health Care Alliance meetings
- Available 24/7 for infections or zoonotic disease concerns, epidemiologist, and infectious disease support
- Provides consults for Cochise County physicians on out-patient treatment plans
- Public Health guidance for large events
- Advises on preparedness and response to emergencies
- Reviews treatment guidance, ensuring compliance and reducing legal risk

• **Prevention Promotion Services:**

- Provides oversight and regulatory lab requirements for iron testing in children

Regulations / Requirements

County Public Health

Service Area	Description
Local Health Infrastructure (A.R.S. § 36-182)	Plans, budget, boards, qualified staff
Environmental Sanitation (A.R.S. §§ 36-183.02 – 36-183.07)	Inspections, enforcement, regulations
Vital Records Collection (A.R.S. § 36-132(A)(3) & A.A.C. Title 9 Chap 19)	Births, deaths, health statistics
Disease Surveillance & Control (A.A.C. Title 9, Chap 6)	Reporting, outbreaks, rabies control, immunizations
Public Health Nursing & Education (A.R.S. § 36-132(A)(5–6)	Community & school outreach
Emergency Preparedness	Outbreak/incident response
Environmental Health (A.A.C. Title 9, Chap 8 & Chap 25)	Food, water, pools, waste oversight
Substance & Harm Reduction (A.R.S. § 36-192)	Services like naloxone distribution

Regulations / Requirements

Detention Health

- A.R.S. section 11-441
 - Powers and duties, the Sheriff shall: Take charge and keep the county jail, including a county jail under the jurisdiction of a county jail district and the prisoners in the county jail.
 - A constitutionally adequate health care system must be provided
- DEA Licensure:
 - In a county health department /detention health services, a Medical Director's DEA number is used to legally prescribe, order, dispense and store, controlled substances as part of public health services.
 - A DEA registration links the responsible physician to the controlled inventory. The physician takes on the liability; misuse can lead to DEA action, fines or revocation of the number.