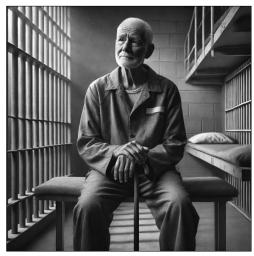
# End-of-life Care in the Prison Environment (Supplement #15



# Source: inmate+Aid <a href="https://bit.ly/3Em8VZk">https://bit.ly/3Em8VZk</a>

# Contents

Aging Prison Populations	p.1
Prison Healthcare Services	p.2
End-of-Life Care in Prisons	p.5
Grief & Bereavement	p.6
Care Planning & Serious & Serious Conversations	p.7
Compassionate Release	p.7
Interesting Reads You Might Have Missed	p.8

**N.B.** Articles, postings, reports, etc., of particular interest are flagged with this icon:



### Aging Prison Population

# Legal analysis of the fulfillment of the rights of disabled and elderly inmates at Class IIB Muntok Prison

JOURNAL OF LAW, POLITIC & HUMANITIES, 2025;5(3):1425-1432 (Indonesia). This study reviews existing regulations, policies, and their implementation within the prison system. Key findings indicate that while legal frameworks exist to protect the rights of disabled and elderly inmates, challenges persist in their practical application due to limited resources, lack of accessibility, and inadequate training for prison staff. The study highlights the need for enhanced infrastructure, specialized healthcare, and tailored rehabilitation programs to ensure equal treatment and protection of vulnerable inmates. Recommendations include policy revisions and capacity-building initiatives to bridge the gap between legal mandates and actual practice. Full text (click on pdf icon): <a href="https://bit.ly/4hlFvcr">https://bit.ly/4hlFvcr</a>

#### Related:

'Aging behind bars: Study highlights rising disability rates among older adults in prisons,' Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (U.S.) | Online – 14 January 2025 – A new study from the Department of Health Policy & Management reveals that older adults in prison are significantly more likely to experience disabilities, with cognitive impairments being twice as prevalent compared to their peers living in community settings.¹ Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/3WqwmcM">https://bit.ly/3WqwmcM</a>

 'Prevalence of disability among older adults in prison,' JAMA Network Open, 27 December 2024. Full text: https://bit.ly/4iNkgSd



Share this resource with a colleague.



## The forgotten inmates: Addressing the challenges of aging prison populations



(**U.S.**) | Online – 27 January 2025 – In addressing the challenges posed by the aging prison population, society faces an opportunity to re-examine the purpose and humanity of incarceration. Elderly inmates, often fraught with complex medical needs, social isolation, and limited mobility, represent a growing and vulnerable demographic that demands thoughtful reform. By implementing specialized care units, expanding rehabilitative programs, and streamlining compassionate release policies, the justice system can strike a balance between fiscal responsibility, public safety, and human dignity. Ultimately, caring for aging prisoners is not merely a

matter of logistics but a reflection of societal values – one that calls for compassion, innovation, and a commitment to justice for all. **Full text:** https://bit.ly/3Em8VZk

#### Related:

'A matter of life: The scope and impact of life and long term imprisonment in the United States,' The Sentencing Project | Online – 8 January 2025 – Aging occurs more rapidly in prison, with health and longevity negatively impacted. Many incarcerated individuals entered prison with poor health, and the conditions of imprisonment worsen chronic and age related ailments. Studies show compared to non-incarcerated individuals, incarcerated people experience worse health outcomes, **Download report at:** https://bit.ly/4ab821y



# Psychological stressors of imprisonment and coping of older incarcerated persons: A qualitative interview study

BMC PUBLIC HEALTH (**Switzerland**) | Online – 25 January 2025 – This is the first study to examine the issue of psychological stressors and coping strategies of the elderly incarcerated persons in Swiss prisons and makes an important contribution to the limited research on this topic internationally. This study has identified various ways in which the prison environment not only undermines older incarcerated persons' psychological well-being, but also their ability to manage the stress they are experiencing. This often reflects persistent structural issues such as multiple stressors in prison and limited resources that many other countries also face and has important implications for the successful reintegration of elderly prisoners into society after imprisonment. **Full text:** https://bit.ly/4hGhT25

#### Invisible men: Unlocking compassion and understanding the needs of older men behind bars

SOCIAL SCIENCES (**U.K.**) | Online – 7 January 2025 – Trainee prison officers should have adequate training that addresses the realities of working with a growing population of ageing prisoners. Not only is the population increasing, but as the men age within prison, the problems presented also increase. Dealing with an ailing prisoner, and the increasing number of deaths of older men in prison requires significant input from training and support. Currently this does not exist. The older prisoner agenda requires immediate response from Government who now must deliver the older prisoner strategy. Many older men in prison suffer additional burdens due to their age and length of sentences, with many describing this as exacerbating the already numerous deprivations of imprisonment.¹ **Full text:** <a href="https://bit.ly/40SIRz1">https://bit.ly/40SIRz1</a>

 'Growing old and dying inside: Improving the experiences of older people serving long prison sentence,' Prison Reform Trust, September 2024: <a href="https://bit.ly/3zbqCIT">https://bit.ly/3zbqCIT</a>

#### Prison Healthcare Services



### Oregon Department of Corrections announces healthcare division reform initiative

KTVL NEWS (**U.S.**) | Online – 4 February 2025 – The Oregon Department of Corrections (DoC) announced a significant reform initiative to overhaul the division that provides healthcare to adults in custody (AICs). The agency is addressing long-standing issues where AICs receive care at correctional facilities

Cont.

across Oregon. DoC will engage industry experts to improve its health services division, and has taken steps to enhance staffing, enact operational changes, and innovate its pharmacy operations. Recommendations include hiring ... qualified professionals such as physicians, nurses, mental health practitioners, and support staff. DoC will also implement an enhanced electronic health records system to improve documentation, data tracking and communication across all DoC facilities. **Full text:** <a href="https://bit.ly/4huo6i8">https://bit.ly/4huo6i8</a>

# Page | 3

#### Related:



'One way to save lives in jails,' *The Harvard Gazette* (U.S.) | Online – 28 January 2025 – In a first-of-its-kind study, researchers found that jails that undergo accreditation, like most hospitals, saw a marked improvement in healthcare delivery and standards, a substantial decrease in deaths, and millions in cost savings. To identify accreditation's potential effects, the researchers conducted a randomized trial of forty-four jails over a four-year period. **Full text:** https://bit.ly/42z6nkO

1. 'The hidden healthcare crisis behind bars: A randomized trial to accredit U.S. jails,' National Bureau of Economic Research, January 2025. **Full Text (click on pdf icon):** https://bit.ly/3EoNTJz

N.B. National Commission on Correctional Health Care Standards: https://bit.ly/4gORv6g

'Resident experiences at a community hospital caring for patients who are incarcerated,' Journal of Correctional Health Care (U.S.) | Online – 27 January 2025 – The authors describe resident physician bed-side experiences at a community teaching hospital caring for patients who are incarcerated. Qualitative analysis revealed themes including barriers to care, permission and authorization, conditional treatment, inconsistency, and conflict. Abstract (w. references): https://bit.ly/3Cr3S9s



'A collaborative stakeholder approach for reducing the use of custodial restraints in hospitalized patients,' Journal of Correctional Health Care (U.S.) | Online – 24 January 2025 – In hospitals across the country, most patients admitted from jails or prisons receive their care in custodial restraints regardless of clinical concerns or public safety risk... The indiscriminate use of custodial restraints causes harm to patients physically, mentally, and through propagation of prejudice. Abstract (w. references): https://bit.ly/4jwYhz9

'A primer on carceral health for clinicians: Care delivery, regulatory oversight, legal and ethical considerations, and clinician responsibilities,' *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* (U.S.) | Online – 11 January 2025 – Healthcare professionals (HCPs) in academic and community settings receive little or no education about correctional health. This article seeks to address this knowledge gap ... presenting the role of HCPs in advocating for ethical care of incarcerated patients. Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/4heNCXN">https://bit.ly/4heNCXN</a>



'Healthcare behind bars: Beyond the Weinstein case,' Medical News Plus (U.S.) | Online – 8 January 2025 – This investigation explores the troubling reality of healthcare behind bars in America's correctional facilities. While Harvey Weinstein's recent medical complaints made headlines, thousands of inmates face similar or worse conditions daily without media attention. The documentary breaks down how the prison healthcare system fails its most vulnerable populations... YouTube video: https://bit.ly/3C1HGCQ

'What Harvey Weinstein's lawsuit reminds us about healthcare behind bars,' Medpage Today (U.S.) | Online – 29 December 2024 – For individuals who work at the intersection of the health and legal systems it is somewhat frustrating that Weinstein's legal complaint has garnered so much media attention. For an average individual detained ... in any of the thousands of local jails around the country, it takes a particularly shocking injustice to be deemed media worthy. Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/4jm4pdE">https://bit.ly/4jm4pdE</a>



"Pivotal moment for reform": Review into First Nations healthcare in prisons calls for sweeping changes

THE JUSTICE MAP (Australia) | Online – 2 February 2025 – A wide-ranging report commissioned by the federal government has called for "urgent and proactive" system-level reforms to improve the standard of healthcare provided to First Nations people in prison. The report is an indictment on the inhumane treatment of First Nations people in prison and the substandard and not culturally appropriate healthcare being provided to them. It calls on Australian governments to work together to implement large-scale reforms to address this, driven by Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and alternative

Cont.

models of custody for First Nations people. The report leads with six high level recommendations at a system-level to address serious concerns identified throughout the review. **Full text:** <a href="https://bit.ly/40ElyFH">https://bit.ly/40ElyFH</a>

1. 'The National Review of First Nations Healthcare in Prisons (2023-2024),' Department of Health & Aged Care. **Download report at:** https://bit.ly/4ggz7Qk



# Ethical issues in conducting health research with people in prison: Results of a deliberative research project conducted with people in Australian prisons

SOCIAL SCIENCE & MEDICINE | Online – 23 January 2025 – People in prison have significant and complex health needs... Planning research involving people in prison raises concerns based on past abuses of incarcerated people amongst other factors. Despite the development of guidelines for the ethical conduct of research in prisons, researchers and advocates have questioned whether current approaches aimed at protecting incarcerated persons from unethical research unfairly exclude this group from participating in and benefitting from research. Discussion of these issues comes mostly from expert opinion. An absent voice is that of people in prison. This study identifies the key ethical issues according to people in prison for health research involving people in prison. Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/3CjHQpb">https://bit.ly/3CjHQpb</a>

#### Related:

'Researching the aging population in state prisons: Ethical considerations and Institutional Review Board requirements,' Innovation in Aging (U.S.) | Online – 31 December 2024 – The growing number of older adults within state prisons presents unique challenges and opportunities for gerontological research. This presentation provides valuable information useful for navigating the ethical landscape to conduct research that improves the well-being of the aging prison population... Abstract: <a href="https://bit.ly/4g7DM9j">https://bit.ly/4g7DM9j</a>



# Health Standards Organization and Correctional Service of Canada announce publication of the *Correctional Health Services Standard*



| Online - 21 January 2025 - Key changes to the standard focus on: cultural safety and humility; equity, diversity and inclusion; trauma-informed care; integrated, people-centred care; and, requirements that align with national legislation and international standards. The standard offers new clarity on quality and safety for health-

care in Canada's prisons and recognizes the health of incarcerated people is integrally interconnected with their human rights. It reflects more than a year of deliberations by a technical committee that ... drew on the diverse expertise and insights of currently incarcerated people, as well as legal advocates, health providers, and Correctional Service of Canada administrators. **Full text:** https://bit.ly/3Ee9ZOS



#### Physical Healthcare in Prison Report

NACRO (U.K.) | Online - 16 January 2025 -People who come into contact with the criminal justice system are often amongst the most vulnerable in our society This report looks at the physical health of people in prison and includes a survey of over a 100 recent prison leavers. The report addresses the impact of imprisonment on physical health, including the impact of overcrowding and unsanitary conditions, lack of purposeful activity and poor quality diets. The authors examine the problems and barriers to accessing healthcare services, including difficulties in accessing treatment and lengthy waiting lists, missed appointments, issues with medication, feeling "unseen," and issues on transfer between prisons and on release. Download report at: https://bit.ly/42f8hHd

# London prison healthcare worse than national average, say prisoners

SW LONDONER (U.K.) | Online – 30 January 2025 – London prison healthcare was worse than the national average for men's prisons in key areas, according to prisoner survey data.¹ Surveys taken from each prison's most recent HM Inspectorate of Prisons report show they lagged behind England and Wales for ease of access to, and quality of service from, healthcare professionals. Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/3QijZd3">https://bit.ly/3QijZd3</a>

 'A review of the healthcare and social care needs of the older prisoner population in England and Wales,' Social Sciences, 25 December 2024. Full text: https://bit.ly/3Dw5jUm

# Patient or prisoner? Perceptions of prison healthcare services in Norway and the conflict between care and control

INCARCERATION | Online – 15 January 2025 – In Norway, prisons are part of the system of public welfare service provision, with the objective of providing equal high standards of public services to all. However, most incarcerated people seem to agree that the healthcare services available in prison are of a lower quality. This article explores this perception and what it tells us about the unsolvable conflict between care and control in prison: firstly, healthcare services in prison have objective shortcomings. A gap between expectations and experiences can cause disappointment and thus create or exacerbate a negative perception. Incarcerated people anticipate, but do not always experience, to be treated as patients in a healthcare facility rather than as prisoners in a security-oriented setting. Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/3DXrC5E">https://bit.ly/3DXrC5E</a>

#### End-of-Life Care in Prisons

# Dying with dignity

## Dying with dignity: Compassionate end-of-life care in America's prisons

REMEMBERING A LIFE | humane Online – 23 January 2025 PRISON HOSPICE PROJECT - The Humane Prison Hospice Project trains incarcerated people as peer caregivers to provide compassionate endof-life care to their fellow community members. The Project's work is rooted in recognizing the inherent dignity and humanity of every person, and the belief that no one should die alone, especially not in prison. The U.S. prison system is not designed for aging or terminally ill people, yet there is a rapidly growing population of elderly, incarcerated individuals, many of whom face painful, isolated deaths in environments that prioritize punishment over care. The Project builds on the legacy of other caregiving programs, particularly the one at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville, California, which has one of the few prison hospice programs in the U.S. Access podcast at: https://bit.ly/4aBfZ0y

# Storming Heaven: Comforting the dying in prison

KCBX – NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (**U.S.**) | Online – 30 January 2025 – Lorie Adoff spent 13 years as the spiritual advisor at California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo developing and implementing a hospice program provided by incarcerated peers trained in end-of-life support. Incarcerated for over 45 years, Carson Dean comforted the dying for two decades while sharpening his writing skills. Together they have authored a powerful book that showcases the human capacity for growth, resilience, self-acceptance, kindness, and compassion behind prison walls. **Listen to broadcast at:** https://bit.ly/3Cu5tLU

### Related:

'Alumna creates hospice program for prison inmates, providing support, end-of-life resources,' Missouri State University (U.S.) | Online – 17 January 2025 – The university has established a volunteer-based hospice care program for inmates at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) consisting of a 10-week training course led by NDCS team members where volunteer inmates learn to address the physical and emotional needs of inmates with terminal diagnoses. Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/4ho4hrY">https://bit.ly/4ho4hrY</a>

**N.B.** A 2019 survey identified 113 functioning prison hospices in the U.S. See 'Characteristics of hospice and palliative care programs in U.S. prisons: An update and 5-year reflection,' *American Journal of Hospice & Palliative Medicine*, 2020;37(7):514-520. **Full text:** https://bit.ly/42nxIGB **BRA** 



Your feedback would be appreciated: <a href="https://bit.ly/4cdWVFD">https://bit.ly/4cdWVFD</a>



Page | 6

# Aging and Dying in Prison: An Investigation into the Experiences of Older Individuals in Federal Custody



Canadian human rights commission | Online – Modified 21 January 2025 – Correctional Service of Canada's 'Hospice Palliative Care Guidelines for Correctional Service Canada' follow the principles and standards of the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (see sidebar). Based on current research and review of palliative care (PC) frameworks within Canada, a number of gaps exist in CSC's approach: lack of 24 hour nursing care in the institu-

tional environment; lack of recognition and support for the family members of those who have a life-threatening illness; lack of ongoing education, specialized training and support for those providing PC services; failure to establish outcome measures and monitor progress in offering PC services; and, lack of strong relationships with community partners. **Download report at:** https://bit.ly/4iQk4By

**N.B.** 'Hospice Palliative Care Guidelines for Correctional Service Canada' was published in July 2009. In September 2022, Correctional Service Canada published 'Palliative and End-of-Life Care Guidelines,' a copy of which can be obtained through an Access to Information Request at: <a href="https://bit.ly/3Q19muE">https://bit.ly/3Q19muE</a> BRA

### Engaging the hospice community in end-of-life care in prisons (Part 2)

Prior to conducting research for its report, 'Dying Behind Bars: How can we better support people in prison at the end-of-life,' Hospice UK had only anecdotal evidence of the important work some hospices were engaged in to support prison inmates at the end of life. The scope of this support had not been established at a national level. After conducting a survey of hospice services across England, researchers found that 25 hospices ... are indeed providing this care and support....¹ The support provided ranges from on-demand specialist palliative care advice to directly caring for inmates within prisons. Some hospices have been conducting this work for more than 15 years... Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/4g93tXc">https://bit.ly/4g93tXc</a>

 'Dying Behind Bars: How can we better support people in prison at the end-of-life,' Hospice UK (2020). https://bit.ly/4bE9RU9

N.B. 'Engaging the hospice community in end-of-life care in prisons (**Part 1**), eHospice, 6 December 2024. **Full text:** https://bit.ly/41k6lgU



#### Global challenges persist in bringing hospice care to incarcerated populations

HOSPICE NEWS | Online – 16 January 2025 – Swelling incarcerated aging populations with unmet end-of-life care needs are straining prison systems worldwide. Recent research has uncovered some of the common strategies to address the issue that are being employed across the globe. More countries have adopted peer caregiving as a way to provide improved support for terminally ill incarcerated individuals... Hospice communities have increasingly forged collaborations to provide caregiving training programs in prison systems throughout the U.S., the U.K., New Zealand and Germany... Through the caregiving programs, hospice volunteers are trained to address some of the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of incarcerated individuals with a terminal diagnosis. Full text: <a href="https://bit.ly/3E8mpaZ">https://bit.ly/3E8mpaZ</a>

#### **Grief & Bereavement**

#### From the Archives

How do people in prison access palliative care? A scoping review of models of palliative care delivery for people in prison in high-income countries (extract)

PALLIATIVE MEDICINE (U.K.) | Online – Accessed 15 January 2025 – Limited evidence exists regarding the psychosocial needs of seriously ill people in prison and the most suitable caregivers for addressing

Cont.

their potential complexities, and bereavement support is limited outside the Embedded Hospice model. Bereavement support involved regular meetings or *ad hoc* support. Informal discussions with staff, memorial services and peer mentorship were observed. Bereavement support could take the form of signposting to bereavement services, condolence cards, telephone calls or psychoeducation on the stages of dying and anticipatory grief. Some programmes surveyed lacked opportunities to memorialise the deceased or access grief counselling. **Full text:** <a href="https://bit.ly/3w5V9q2">https://bit.ly/3w5V9q2</a>

Page | 7

## Care Planning & Serious Illness Conversations

#### **From the Archives**

Identifying barriers and facilitators to implementing care planning in prisons: A rapid literature review (extract)

HEALTH & JUSTICE (Australia) | Online – Accessed 15 January 2025 – Limited academic literature related to the implementation and experience of advance care planning (ACP) in prisons is available, and primarily reflects the U.S. experience. Barriers and facilitators related to the implementation of ACP in prisons were grouped into systems-based factors, attitudes and perspectives ... and understanding and knowledge of ACP by staff and prisoners. ACP and substitute decision-making appears poorly integrated into correctional health currently, and barriers exist at the system, staff, and prisoner levels. As the number of older prisoners dying from natural causes is increasing, improving ACP uptake in prisons is essential to ensure prisoner medical treatment preferences are respected. Full text: https://bit.ly/2RQbIUS

## Compassionate Release



### Paroled sick inmates stay in prison as nursing homes refuse them



(**U.S.**) | Online – 20 January 2025 – New York state granted parole to Westil Gonzalez, who suffered from multiple sclerosis after serving 33 years in prison for murder. Six months have passed and Gonzalez, 57, is still incarcerated

outside Buffalo, because the Department of Corrections has not found a nursing home that will accept him. Another New York inmate has been in the same limbo for 20 months. Others were released only after suing the state...<sup>1</sup> The share of prisoners over 65 quadrupled to about 4%. Costly medical conditions require more nursing care, both in prison and after an inmate's release. Prison systems attempting to discharge inmates convicted of serious crimes often have few options. Nursing home beds can be hard to find even for those without criminal records. **Full text:** https://bit.ly/42X4izx

1. 'Sick prisoners in New York State were granted parole but remain behind bars,' *The New York Times*, 17 January 2025 **Access article at:** <a href="https://bit.ly/4hg1xg0">https://bit.ly/4hg1xg0</a>

#### Related:

'North Carolina tries to reduce prison healthcare costs,' National Criminal Justice Association | Online – 10 January 2025 – About 31,000 North Carolina prisoners racked up a \$357.4 million bill for healthcare in fiscal year 2021-2022, an expenditure that ballooned 51% over the past 10 years.¹ U.S. prisons spent \$8.1 billion on prison healthcare in 2015 alone.² In an attempt to reduce the cost of prison healthcare the North Carolina legislature in 2023 enacted changes that make early release for medical reasons easier... Full text: https://bit.ly/42y5TeO

- 1. 'Expanded prison medical release eligibility provides opportunity for more sick, aging incarcerated people to go home before they die,' NC Health News, October 2023: https://bit.ly/3LOsLO4
- 2. 'Prison healthcare costs and quality,' The Pew Charitable Trusts, October 2017: https://bit.ly/3P6EWGV

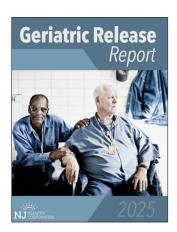
**N.B.** 'Compassionate release: Call for humility and more leniency,' There is widespread evidence that few applicants are granted early release so that they may live out their last days no longer confined within the four walls of a prison cell. **Full text:** https://bit.ly/41k6lqU **BRA** 



### Should elderly prisoners get early release?

NJ SPOTLIGHT NEWS (U.S.) | Online – 7 January 2025 – New Jersey houses almost 1,000 inmates over the age of 60, but while many states offer geriatric parole for aging inmates, New Jersey only does so if a prisoner is suffering from a terminal illness or permanent disability. Advocates want to change that with new legislation, arguing only 1-3% of released inmates over age 60 end up back in jail. "It's really a matter not just of some radical criminal justice reform project, but of pure humanity," said Larry Lustberg, director of Gibbons Fellowship in Public Interest & Constitutional Law, which issued a new report promoting geriatric release of elderly New Jersey prisoners.¹ "People who are sick and old should not have to die in jail," he said. Full text (w. video): https://bit.ly/3PMMEXr

 'Geriatric Release Report,' New Jersey Reentry Corporation, January 2025. <a href="https://bit.ly/3W62lag">https://bit.ly/3W62lag</a>



### Interesting Reads You Might Have Missed

### Palliative and end-of-life care in prisons: A mixedmethods rapid review of the literature from 2014-2018

BMJ OPEN (U.K.) | Online – 23 December 2019 – Many of the key findings of this review reinforce points made in the Wion and Loeb review,¹ such as the value of inmate hospice volunteers and the physical barriers presented by the prison environment. Other findings which were relatively minor in the previous review have become major themes in the literature published since 2014, such as the importance of maintaining family relationships, and the potential grief burden of inmate hospice volunteers. Finally, this review adds the main finding that relationships both inside and outside of prison are of importance to prisoners at the end of life, and recommends that those involved in their care should support prisoners to maintain these relationships. Full text: https://bit.ly/2PTCRR2

'End-of-life care behind bars: A systematic review,' American Journal of Nursing, 2016;116(3):24-36.
 Abstract: <a href="https://bit.ly/4bzMon8">https://bit.ly/4bzMon8</a>

# Prison healthcare costs and quality: How and why states strive for high-performing systems

THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS (U.S.) Online - 18 October 2017 - This first-of-its-kind report ... incorporates information on the operational characteristics of states' prison healthcare systems; whether and how states monitor the quality of care provided - the critical counterpart to cost when assessing value... The aim is to begin to paint a comprehensive picture for policymakers, administrators and other stakeholders of how states fund and deliver prison healthcare, how they compare with one another, and some reasons for differences. These stakeholders can use such practical information and insights to help optimize policies and programs in the service of incarcerated individuals, state residents, and taxpayers. Full text: https://bit.ly/3P6EWGV

#### Seven stories on healthcare in prisons

PRISON JOURNALISM PROJECT (**U.S.**) | Online – Accessed 19 January 2025 – Americans are no strangers to the complexities and burdens of the country's healthcare system. In prison, many of these issues are exacerbated. In the 1976 Supreme Court case *Estelle v. Gamble*, the court held that failure to provide adequate healthcare to incarcerated people as a result of "deliberate indifference" is unconstitutional. The court cited the Eighth Amendment in this decision, writing that such indifference constitutes cruel and unusual punishment. Nonetheless, nearly five decades after the verdict, more than 1 in 5 people incarcerated in state facilities lack treatment for ongoing medical issues...¹

 'The health and healthcare of U.S. prisoners: Results of a nationwide survey,' American Journal of Public Health, 2009;99(4):666-672. Full text: https://bit.ly/3QW5DA0

# End of life in high-security prisons in Switzerland: Overlapping and blurring of "care" and "custody" as institutional logics

JOURNAL OF CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE, 2017;23(1):32-42. The Swiss prison system faces a growing number of elderly prisoners, trends toward securitization, and, in consequence, more prisoners who will spend the end-of-life (EoL) period of time in prison. By law, prisoners should have the same access to care as the rest of the population. Custody makes meeting the demands of medical and palliative care difficult. This article examines the institutional logic of the prison and the competing "new" logic emerging with EoL care. It illustrates the ambivalences within these logics and the blurred distinction between "care" and "custody" and evaluates how prison staff interpret this overlap and the effects in shaping everyday practices. Abstract (w. references): <a href="https://bit.ly/40ppVgi">https://bit.ly/40ppVgi</a>

**N.B.** To read the full-text of this research request a copy directly from the authors at ResearchGate: <a href="https://bit.ly/3ClluSY">https://bit.ly/3ClluSY</a>



Please report any broken links.



To keep abreast of current thinking on palliative and end-of-life care check out 'Literature Search' posted each month on the website of the International Association for Hospice & Palliative Care: <a href="https://bit.ly/3WWxUYC">https://bit.ly/3WWxUYC</a>

Barry R. Ashpole, Ontario, CANADA

Biosketch: https://bit.ly/3XMTRs4