



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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January 26, 2016

The Honorable Mike Padden, Chair
Senate Law & Justice Committee

The Honorable Randi Becker, Chair
Senate Health Care Committee

The Honorable Roger Goodman, Chair
House Public Safety Committee

The Honorable Eileen Cody, Chair
House Health Care & Wellness Committee

Dear Legislators:

This letter constitutes the Department of Corrections' Annual Report to the Legislature on copayments assessed for specific health care services provided to incarcerated offenders.

As specified in RCW 72.10.020 (3) (a), the report on copayments includes the following information for Fiscal Year 2015:

(3)(a)(i)	Total number of health care visits* made by offenders:	271,748
(3)(a)(ii)	Total number of copayments assessed:	36,087
(3)(a)(iii)	Total dollar amount of copayments collected:	\$60,074
4(3)(a)(iv)	Total number of copayments not collected due to offender indigence**:	22,960
(3)(a)(v)	Total number of visits not assessed a copayment for health services rendered:	235,661

* *health care visits include primary medical, mental health (residential treatment unit encounters are not copay-able) and dental visits, and exclude nursing visits which may not be subject to copayment.*

** *copayments not collected at time of service become debt on offender account*

Please note that HB 2803, enacted in the 2012 Legislative session, increased the copay amount to \$4 per visit. The legislation also changed which visits are assessed a copay. These changes took effect in early Fiscal Year 2013.

In July 2012 the Department implemented a new medical encounter system and added new nursing encounter category which was previously categorized under medical visits. This report excludes nursing encounters visits (241,195 in FY2015).

Please contact Kevin Bovenkamp, Assistant Secretary Health Services, at (360) 725-8729 if further clarification is needed.

Sincerely,

Dan Pacholke
Secretary

DP:ma

enclosure

cc: Members of Senate Law & Justice Committee
 Members of House Public Safety Committee
 Members of Senate Health Care Committee
 Members of House Health Care & Wellness Committee
 Kevin Bovenkamp, Secretary, Health Services Division, DOC
 Sarian Scott, Chief Financial Officer, DOC
 Alex MacBain, Director of Executive Strategy, Analysis & Accountability, DOC
 Clela Steelhammer, Legislative Liaison, DOC

**Department of Corrections
 Copayment Data
 Fiscal Year 2015**

	Medical	Dental	Mental Health	Total
Total Number of Health Care Visits* This is the total number of face-to-face visits for medical, dental and mental health primary care.	66,999**	35,713	169,036	271,748
Total Number of Health Care Visits Assessed a Copayment	24,502 (37% of all visits)	10,025 (28% of all visits)	1,560 (1% of all visits)	36,087 (13% of all visits)
Total Number of Health Care Visits NOT Assessed a Copayment	42,497 (63% of all visits)	25,688 (72% of all visits)	167,476 (99% of all visits)	235,661 (87% of all visits)
Total Copayments Assessed for Health Services	\$98,222.57	\$40,096.00	\$6,240.00	\$144,558.57
Total Dollar Amount Collected from the Copayment Program	\$39,726.37 (40% of copays assessed)	\$18,451.70 (46% of copays assessed)	\$1,895.76 (30% of copays assessed)	\$60,073.83 (42% of copays assessed)
Total Number of Copayments Not Collected due to Offender Indigence***	15,861 (65% of copays assessed visits)	5,956 (59% of copays assessed visits)	1,143 (73% of copays assessed visits)	22,960 (64% of copays assessed visits)

* DOC policy exempts mental health residential treatment unit visits from copayments.

** DOC implemented new medical encounter system in FY2012 and nursing visits, which may not be subject to copayment, are not included.

*** When an offender is indigent or has insufficient funds at the specific time a copayment is assessed, a debt is established. This debt is either for the total amount of \$4.00, or for the balance after partial payment is collected. The amount due is to be paid at a later time when/if a deposit is made into the offender's account. Inmate banking does not have the capability to determine which part of debt repayment over a period of time is specifically applied to copayment debt.