

**SECTION: NURSING**

**POLICY#: 426 PEDICULOSIS (Lice) SCREENING**

**POLICY:** Pediculosis screening will be available upon request.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Assessment will be made regarding exposure, symptoms, and/or treatment.
2. Screening procedure will be explained to individual.
3. Using an applicator stick, inspect the hair and scalp by parting the hair in a systematic manner looking for gray-white nits attached to the hair shaft, and/or lice. A hand magnifying glass may be helpful. Natural light usually provides the best light for identifying lice.
4. In order to avoid mistaking artifacts for nits (artifacts, i.e., hair spray, scales, dandruff) attempt to pull particle from the hair shaft. If it remains attached, suspect nits. Artifacts will easily brush off.
5. Positive cases will be instructed on treatment and proper cleaning regime. (printed instructions will be sent home with client) See attached form.
6. Reference-Head Lice Booklet-“Head Lice a Lousy Problem” from the ND Department of Health.
7. Any suspected cases will be documented in client record and in the CVHD EMR.