**Text

Description automatically generated with low confidenceSEARCH PROCEDURE ANNEX C**

|  |
| --- |
| SEARCH INVOLVING A SQUAT |

**Searches involving a squat can only be applied to Prisoners in the Men’s Estate.** Where a person refuses an order to squat, this must not be carried out using force. There is no approved technique for the purpose of making a person squat if they do not comply.

Please see **Annex A** for transgender searching involving a squat arrangements.

If the prisoner refuses or is unable to remove/pass a suspected item following an order to do so, the prison must consider the risks presented by that prisoner to themselves and/or others.

* Where an item is clearly and fully visible, e.g., taped to the skin, and removal can be undertaken without risk of injury, it may be removed without consent and by force if necessary. This does not apply to any search of an intimate area.
* Items that can visibly be seen protruding from the anus/genital area **must not** be removed by staff under any circumstances. Other measures can be undertaken in these circumstances:

Review of current location and consideration to segregation.

Disobeying a lawful order under Prison Rule 51 (23) or YOI Rule 55 (26).

Closed visits may be imposed following a risk-assessment should the indication give rise to a risk that the prisoner may pass further items on visits.

Action may be initiated under the IEP scheme.

A defensible decision must be made on any actions taken/not taken and recorded on NOMIS. This consideration should be in conjunction with advice from healthcare.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **STEP 1 –** The prisoner will be asked to squat. A picture containing silhouette  Description automatically generated | Officers will visually examine the area around the anus more closely, using mirrors if necessary. Staff are reminded that in carrying out searches of this type they must take particular care to adopt an appropriate demeanour and to avoid inappropriate actions or comments.  In the event that an illicit item is handed over, the prison must retain all evidence in line with Evidence Policy Framework. The prison must also consider adjudication / police referral. |
| **STEP 2 -** If the prisoner refuses to squat, they are disobeying a lawful order | There is no approved technique for the purpose of making a person squat if they do not comply. The prisoner should be placed on report. Where there is intelligence or the search is following an observation of an item being secreted, the use of a bodyscanner can be considered. See Bodyscanner Policy Framework. |
| **The above steps have been completed but staff have reason to remain suspicious about an item hidden in/around the genitals** | |
| **STEP 3 -** The searcher may improve the effectiveness of visual inspection | Staff will ask the prisoner to lift the penis and/or scrotum, and/or ask the prisoner to pull back the foreskin.  Pulling back the foreskin does not meet the definition of an intimate search as it does not involve intrusion into an orifice. |
| **If no item is visible there are no further grounds to continue this search and the full search must be completed in the normal manner. Records must be updated to include squat procedure.** | |