

## Media Release

October 27, 2016  
For Immediate Release

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Dawn-Renee Smith, Communications Director  
[Dawnrenee.smith@nebraska.gov](mailto:Dawnrenee.smith@nebraska.gov)

---

### **FRAKES APPOINTS NEW MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

(LINCOLN) – Today, Director Scott R. Frakes announced the appointment of Harbans S. Deol, D.O., Ph.D., as the deputy director to lead the Health Services division of the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) and serve as the agency medical director.

Dr. Deol has come to NDCS from the Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC) where he has served as the health services administrator, overseeing the medical, mental health, dental and pharmaceutical departments since 2004. He earned his Ph.D. from New York University and his D.O. from Des Moines University, followed by a residency at the Norwalk Hospital, an affiliate of Yale University.

Dr. Deol was in private practice for over 15 years prior to joining the Iowa DOC. He has conducted research in HCV and HIV using molecular biology techniques as a research scientist in a pharmaceutical company. He has numerous patents and publications in the scientific arena. He served as the chief of staff at the hospital and as a medical director for nursing homes.

“Dr. Deol brings the administrative experience and medical knowledge needed to effectively lead the Health Services division,” said Director Frakes. “His diverse work history provides for a fresh perspective in the delivery of medical and behavioral health services in corrections.”

He is a member of Coalition for Correctional Health Authorities (CCHA) and Association of Correctional Mental Health Administrators (ACMHA) within the American Correctional Association (ACA). Through his work in corrections, he has assisted in educating state legislative staff and other agencies in health care challenges in the correctional environment, helped to reduce the cost of pharmaceuticals by an average of 15 percent per year, and directed telepsychiatry in all institutions with expansion to community-based corrections.

Dr. Deol stated, “I am looking forward to joining the NDCS team and developing meaningful relationships with other agencies to integrate a comprehensive plan for the delivery of healthcare. I hope my experience in correctional medicine as well as community medicine standards will be an asset to the organization.”

Dr. Deol begins his new position with NDCS on January 2, 2017, with an annual salary of \$270,000. He replaces Randy T. Kohl, M.D. who recently retired after 15 years as the NDCS medical director.

###