

cultures from different areas of the institution to ensure that germs are not being spread.

Walsh also defended the institution's pharmaceutical division, which was criticized for inadequate record-keeping and for its policies in dispensing drugs.

"It's a matter of style and opinion," he said. "They said some of our policies were outdated, but we questioned them on that. I thought we were almost in total compliance in the pharmaceutical area."

Likewise, Walsh said he disagreed that SIDC clients are not provided with enough clothing. The federal survey cited one example of patients walking around nude.

"I looked into that particular instance, and I found that happened in the early morning hours while the staff was changing the women's clothing," Walsh said. "I go through the institutions at all times of the day, and you do occasionally see people nude, but I'm satisfied that we have enough clothes for our clients."

"It's hard to have clothes on all the clients all the time," he said, adding that some clients are hyperactive and undress themselves during the day. "There will always be an issue with clothing because of the type of clients that we have."

Another issue was cleanliness, particularly in the bathrooms.

The surveyors cited several examples of clogged toilets, offensive odors and filth crusted on water fountains, toilets and bathroom walls.

"I didn't see that type of odor or problems, but I'm now having supervisors make rounds of key areas like bathrooms on a daily basis to ensure that they are clean," Walsh said.

Walsh, who took over as SIDC director in June 1983, said he had already identified many of the items cited in the federal report.

"There was almost nothing that we didn't already have a plan to correct," Walsh said.

Walsh said his reforms should start reaping results within the next year.

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