

Binghamton University

## The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB)

---

Research Days Posters 2023

Division of Research

---

2023

### Healthcare: The Causative Factor of the Punitive Prison System

Julianna Raimonda

*Binghamton University--SUNY*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://orb.binghamton.edu/research\\_days\\_posters\\_2023](https://orb.binghamton.edu/research_days_posters_2023)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Raimonda, Julianna, "Healthcare: The Causative Factor of the Punitive Prison System" (2023). *Research Days Posters 2023*. 81.

[https://orb.binghamton.edu/research\\_days\\_posters\\_2023/81](https://orb.binghamton.edu/research_days_posters_2023/81)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Division of Research at The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). It has been accepted for inclusion in Research Days Posters 2023 by an authorized administrator of The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). For more information, please contact [ORB@binghamton.edu](mailto:ORB@binghamton.edu).



# Healthcare in New York State Correctional Facilities

An examination of the New York State correctional facility laws on healthcare compared to how they are enforced, and how poor healthcare deteriorates self-worth and determination, which makes it difficult for inmates to rehabilitate before returning to the community.

Substandard Healthcare  
**CAUSES** a Punitive System

By: **Julianna Raimonda**

## Human Rights and Inmate Health

*Protected under the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution:*

-Right to adequate healthcare to an inmate's serious medical need.

-Right to adequate food, clothing, and shelter.

-Right to humane conditions of confinement.

*Protected under the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution:*

-Right to equal treatment and opportunity to care.

-Right to informed consent.

-Right to refuse medical care.

-Right to control their own bodies.

-Right to privacy.

## Legal Background

*International: The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules):*

-built around a rehabilitation system; broad guidelines

- "the period of imprisonment is used to ensure, so far as possible, the reintegration of such persons into society upon release so that they can lead a law-abiding and self-supporting life."

*State: New York State's Consolidated Correction Law §140, Article 6 says:*

- "Subject to the regulations of the department of health"

- "routine medical, dental and mental health services."

Under the New York State Regulations, Chapter 9 Part 7651 of the Minimum Standards and Regulations for Management of State Correctional Facilities:

-proper and available as the healthcare available for the people in the community.

NYS DOCCS: "Medical staff is onsite at all correctional facilities. Incarcerated individuals have access to medical services on a daily basis through each facility's sick call procedure."

## Limitations

- I visited Broome County Jail and spoke with many inmates. However, state prisons are a completely different system, and therefore do not have first hand experience at a state prison.

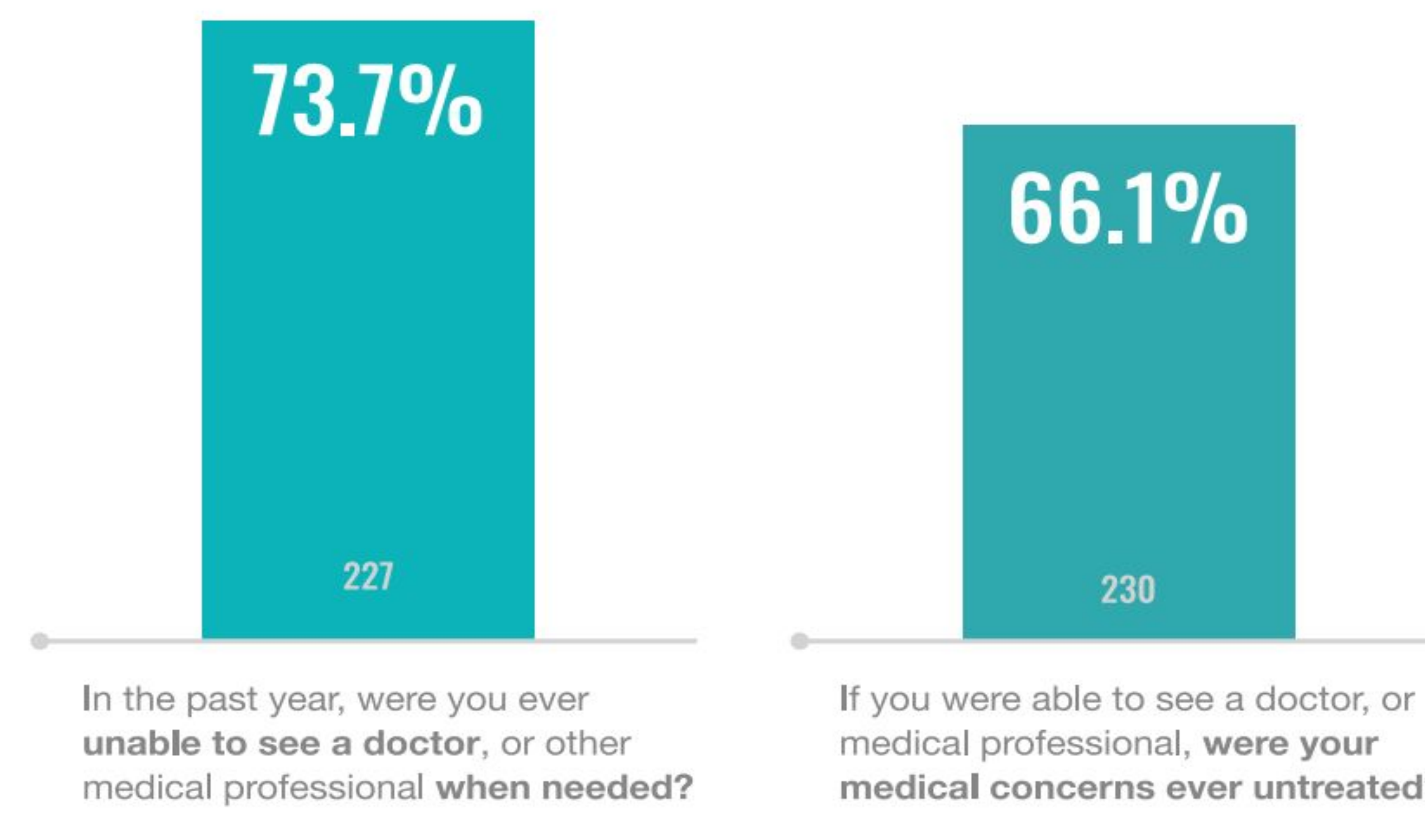
- State budget has not been taken into account.

- I have been researching this topic for a short duration of time.

## Methodology: Law v. Enforcement Is the law being practiced?

In 2019, CANY visited four New York State facilities and surveyed the healthcare individuals received in a one year period.

### PERCENT AND NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS RESPONDING YES.



[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b2c07e2a9e02851fb387477/t/5e65f1009369fa095333ef23/t1583739189727/Connection-to-the-Outside-World\\_CANYReport-03092020.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b2c07e2a9e02851fb387477/t/5e65f1009369fa095333ef23/t1583739189727/Connection-to-the-Outside-World_CANYReport-03092020.pdf)

-CANY 2019: Only 32 percent of incarcerated inmates were satisfied with their healthcare experience, over half of whom were completely untreated

**\*Higher prevalence of illness in incarceration than in the general public\***

**SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL STAFF WITH IMPROPER TRAINING & LACK OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

**DISTRUST & MISTREATMENT OF MEDICAL STAFF**

**"Medical is a joke."**

"People who need specialized care, individuals who have unique needs or unusual needs, are suppressed and ignored until they learn to live with the regular routine, or just die."

David Coggins, incarcerated in Great Meadow Correctional Facility in Washington County

## Conclusions: Recidivism

*Illness-stigma, ignorance of illness, and prolongation of illness causes:*

- impairment of concentration and thinking

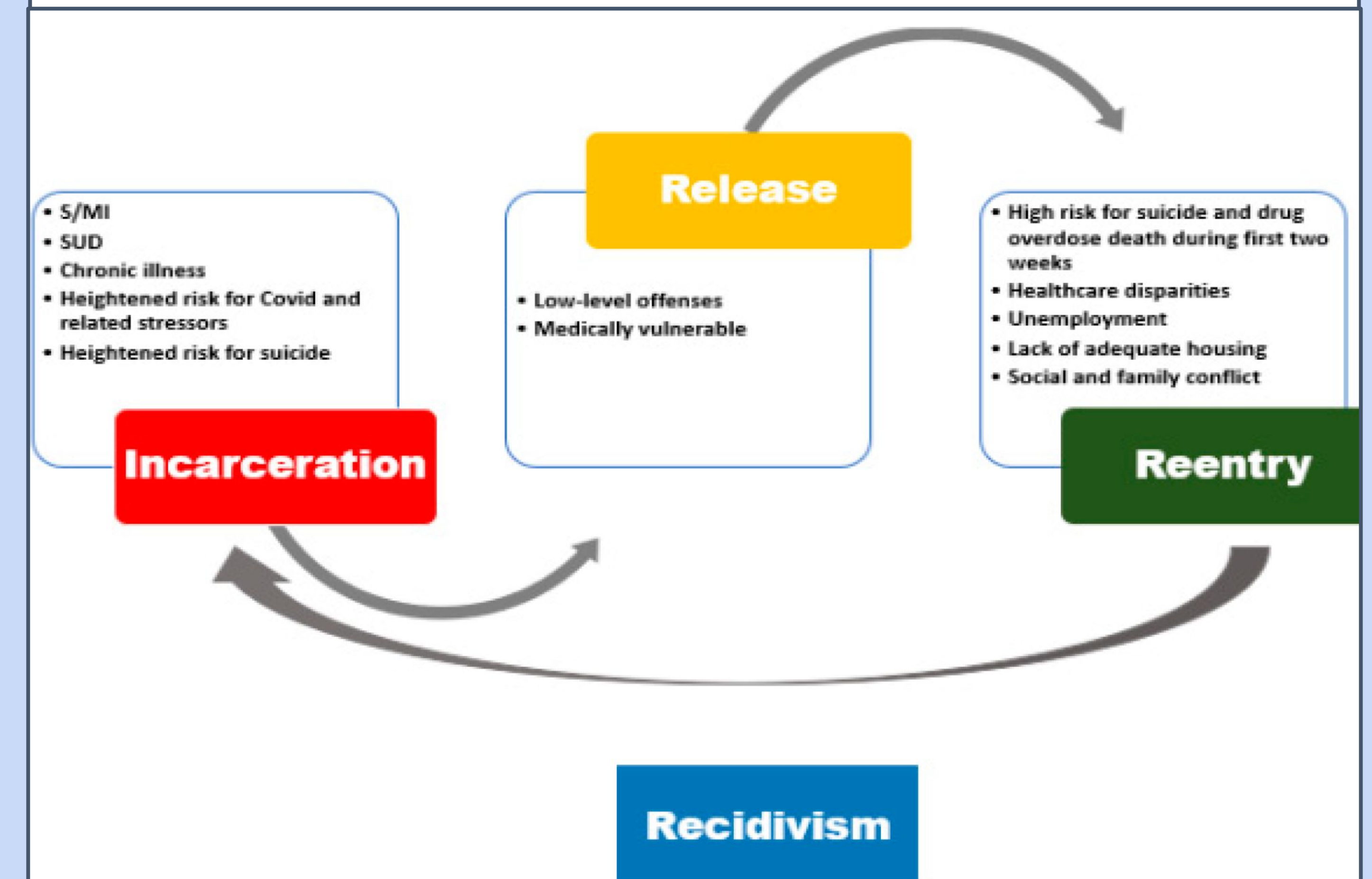
-lack of ability to adjust to work and social environments well

-lack of acceptance that they had an illness

-symptoms of illness feel enhanced

-deterioration of self-esteem and self-worth

-lack of motivation to grow, change their lifestyle, or become the best version of themselves



<https://www.mdpi.com/2076-0760/11/11/521>

**40% of inmates re-enter NYS Prisons within 3 years of release**

Neglecting the minimum standards of medical treatment required for all inmates coerces punishment and specifically targets the inmate's simply for being sick, therefore steering them away from rehabilitation after rejoining the community, and rather releasing them into the community debilitated, and weakened physiologically and psychologically.

**SCAN for Literature Review**

