



PIONEER MEDICAL CENTER

P.O. Box 1228, Big Timber, MT
406-932-4603 Fax: 406-932-5468

POLICY and PROCEDURE	
Title	Blood Alcohol Draws Requested by Law Enforcement
Manuals	CAH-PCGM
Approved By	Date: <u>02/17/2016</u> By: <u>Erik Wood</u> Title <u>CEO</u>

Highlights	Policy Statement
	It is the policy of PMC to provide consistent care and procedures with regard to Blood Alcohol Draws for law enforcement.
	Procedure
Medical Treatment	1. The nurse on duty must first ask the patient if they require medical treatment.
Provider Order	2. A provider order is <i>not</i> required for the drawing of blood to be tested for alcohol content.
Consent	3. The Law Enforcement Officer provides the forms for the consent to have the Blood Alcohol Test.
	4. The patient must consent to have blood drawn and sign the facility Outpatient Registration Consent before the blood is drawn. If verbal or written consent is not given by the patient- DO NOT DRAW THE BLOOD. (See Exceptions). No assessment or vital signs are needed.
Registration	5. Register the patient in Cerner to create an encounter. Insurance information is that of the appropriate law enforcement agency requesting the lab draw.
MHP Checklist	6. Montana Highway Patrol (MHP) will bring a checklist with them and provide the appropriate tube for the blood. The nurse or person drawing the blood is to keep a copy of the checklist and attach it to the Outpatient Registration.
Documentation of Sheriff Draws	7. If the Sweet Grass County sheriff department brings in a patient for a blood alcohol draw they do not bring a checklist with them or the tube. Document your procedure on obtaining the blood draw (same as for MHP) and obtain a red top tube from the lab.
Prep	8. Prep the skin with betadine only. DO NOT USE ALCOHOL to prep skin. Be sure to document this on the Outpatient Record.
Drawing the Blood	9. Draw 10mL of blood; label the tube with the date, time, patient's name and initials of the person drawing the blood. The tube must be sealed before leaving the emergency room.
Officer Presence	10. The requesting officer must be present for the entire blood draw and sign that they witness the entire procedure.
Draw for Medical Treatment	11. If a provider or patient requests a Blood Alcohol to be drawn, the same procedure is used except that a gray top tube is used. The only consent required is the regular consent for care on the registration form. If blood is drawn for law enforcement and per provider order for the care of a patient, there must be a separate registration for each draw.
Exceptions to Draw	12. "Exceptions": The nurse does not draw any blood if the patient refuses to consent except under the following circumstances:



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- a. Arresting officer reports that the patient is under arrest and charged with negligent homicide.
 - b. Patient is determined incompetent; either too drunk or injured to consent. Document this on the medical record and have the officer co-sign.
 - c. Arresting officer presents a Search Warrant signed by a judge, requesting a Blood Alcohol. Retain a copy of the warrant for the medial record.

Regulatory Reference Sources	
OBRA Regulatory Reference Numbers	
Survey Tag Numbers (optional)	