

	1220	Blood collection for law enforcement
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual	Treatment Guidelines	
Effective Date: 02/01/2021	Next Revision: 02/01/2023	
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR	SIGNATURE ON FILE	

Authority

Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9.

Purpose

Establish guidelines for collection of blood samples at the request of law enforcement to determine blood alcohol content for non-medical purpose by the Paramedic.

Policy

Paramedics are empowered by law to obtain blood samples by request of law enforcement agencies. If individual that the sample is obtained from is a patient under care of the Paramedic the blood collection must not interfere with medical care.

It will be the Provider Agencies right to determine if their personnel shall participate in this policy.

By California Vehicle Code Paramedics employed by fire departments are NOT allowed to draw blood for a Peace Officer

Procedure

- 1) Law enforcement officer must request the blood sample be obtained, be present to witness and provide appropriate equipment/supplies.
- 2) The Paramedic ensures chain of custody of the blood sample by directly releasing it to the requesting law enforcement.
- 3) 911 system status must allow for the Paramedic to be used for sample collection