

	1222	Taser Probe Removal
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual	Treatment Guidelines	
Effective Date: 9/1//2023	Next Revision: 9/1/2026	
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR	SIGNATURE ON FILE	

For use with LE deployed Tasers only
 Ensure scene safety
 Assess ABC's
 History and Physical
 Including Tetanus vaccination status
 Vital signs including BG
 Oxygen: titrate spo2 to 94%

Place one hand on the area where the probe is embedded and stabilize the skin surrounding the puncture site.
 Place second hand firmly around the probe.
 In one fluid motion, pull the probe straight out from the puncture site.

- Do not use forceps or other device to remove the probe. If the probe cannot be removed by hand, transport the patient to the Emergency Department.

Repeat procedure for second probe, if needed.
 Cleanse puncture sites and bandage as appropriate.
 Inspect probe(s) to assure that they are whole and no part of the probe remains in the patient. If probe is not whole upon removal, transport to Emergency Department.

- A. Suggest patient be evaluated within 48 hours by physician. (EMS exam, shall not in any way constitute a 'Medical Clearance Exam')
- B. If no tetanus vaccine within 5 years, advise patient to obtain tetanus vaccine within 72 hours.
- C. Extracted probes are evidence and shall be given to law enforcement officers.

Field Taser Probe Removal Criteria

If potential for complications exist, contact on-line medical control or transport to appropriate hospital. The patient may be released to the relevant law enforcement agency if, after a fifteen minute observation period in the field (starting from arrival at patient's side) **all of the following criteria are met:**

Patient must have a GCS of 15
 Patient must have a heart rate of <110 bpm, respiratory rate >12, O2 saturation >94%, systolic blood pressure >100 mmHg and <180 mmHg
 No dart has penetrated the eye, face, neck, breasts (females), axilla or genitals

Patient has no other acute medical or psychiatric condition requiring medical evaluation, such as:
 Traumatic injury sustained in TASER induced fall
 Hypoglycemia
 Patient has Pace Maker/ICD
 Acute psychiatric disturbance or agitated delirium
 Tetanic muscle contractions
 Patient is not requesting transport to hospital.
 Patient is 18 years of age or older