

**San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
Detention and Corrections Bureau
Correctional Health Services Division
Operational Procedure Manual**



New Policy

Policy # 314.4

No. of Pages 1 of 3

Reviewed and Effective

Dates: 05/26/22 – 12/31/22

Effective: 05/26/2022

Subject: Lactation Accommodation

PURPOSE: To ensure the benefits of breastfeeding are explained, and comprehensive lactation accommodations are offered and provided on a voluntary basis, to pregnant and postpartum/breastfeeding patients.

APPLICABILITY: Qualified Health Professionals (QHP), Qualified Mental Health Professionals (QMHP), and custody staff.

RESPONSIBILITY: Health Services Administrator, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Psychiatric Officer, Chief Dentist, Supervisor II Committee, and Custody Administration as applicable.

POLICY: Lactating females may express milk for purposes of relieving pain, preventing mastitis, maintaining milk supply, or providing breast milk to their infants/toddlers. CHS shall ensure the benefits of breastfeeding are explained to all pregnant and postpartum/breastfeeding patients and provide a voluntary lactation program that is based on currently accepted best practices. Postpartum/breastfeeding patients will be provided medically appropriate support and care related to lactation or the cessation of lactation or weaning, to include the voluntary use of a breast pump, appropriate storage and disposal of breast milk, and pick-up/transfer of expressed milk to the infant/toddler's approved caregivers.

PROCEDURE:

A. Screening and Notification:

Female arrestees will be screened upon entry to determine if they are postpartum and breastfeeding. Pregnant and postpartum patients will be informed about the benefits of breastfeeding and told of the CHS lactation program through various methods including:

- a. Completion of the Pregnant Patient Information sheet that is provided at intake;
- b. Educational prenatal and postpartum information packets provided to the patient;
- c. Signage posted in female housing areas; and
- d. Encounters with CHS medical staff.

B. Program Admission:

Patients not wishing to store or use their breast milk for feeding their infant/toddler may use the program's breast pumps and milk collection bags for expression purposes only and shall have their expressed breast milk immediately discarded.

Patients wishing to store or use their breast milk for the feeding of their infant/toddler shall first undergo a drug screening. Those with a positive urine drug screen result will be referred to an OB/GYN provider as a sick call to determine whether, in the professional's medical opinion, it is possible to provide milk that is safe for an infant's consumption while maintaining the health of the mother. If it is determined to be unsafe, the patient's ability to store and have breast milk picked up for transfer shall be suspended until such time as the OB/GYN provides a safe milk clearance. Breast pumping and breast milk storage shall continue while awaiting a safe breast milk clearance. If such clearance is ultimately denied, any breast milk stored pending a safe milk clearance shall be discarded.

C. Documentation:

The patient's participation in the lactation program shall be noted with a flag in the patient's health record. Custody staff will also be told that the patient requires frequent nurse sick call visits to express breast milk.

D. Breast Pumps:

Electric and manual breast pumps are available for lactating patients in designated rooms with a sink to wash hands, an electrical outlet, a chair, and a table to sit down at. Patients will be instructed on the use and cleaning of the pumps.

E. Milk Collection Bags:

A new milk collection bag is used each time breast milk is pumped and collected. For patients able to provide breast milk for their child, and those with a pending safe milk clearance, the patient's name, booking number, and date and time of collection shall be labeled on the bag.

F. Storage:

Milk collection bags intended to be stored will be placed in a refrigerator designated for the storage of breast milk as soon as they are collected from the patient. Breast milk will be maintained for a period consistent with applicable guidelines. Daily temperature logs of the refrigerator will be maintained consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations.

G. Approved Person Breast Milk Pick-Up:

Breast milk may be released to an approved person, at the option of the lactating patient. Pick-up shall take place at the West Valley Detention Center visiting lobby. Approved persons picking up breast milk shall provide identification prior to release of the breast milk, have an insulated container/carrier for the milk's transport, and provide a signature signifying pick up, including the number of bags picked up.

H. Transfer or Release of Patient:

The PMT RN or Nurse Supervisor/Charge Nurse will coordinate transfer of all stored breast milk upon the patient's release/transfer from custody.

I. Lactation Management:

Lactating patients shall be educated on detecting the early signs of infected or plugged breast ducts and provided assistance with the cessation of lactation, if necessary.

J. Posting of Policy:

This policy shall be posted in all locations in the jail where medical care is provided. This policy's provisions shall be communicated to all staff interacting with or overseeing pregnant or lactating inmates.

REFERENCES:

Penal Code section 4002.5

Counseling and Care of the Pregnant Inmate, J-F-05, National Commission on Correctional Health Care

Implemented: 05/26/2022