



San Bernardino County Sheriff Health Services Division Operational Policy and Procedure Manual

Section: 14.0 Special Circumstances

Policy and Procedure: 14.10 Lactation Accommodation

Effective Date: 12/31/22

Revision Date: 6/26/25

Affiliated Standards, Statutes, and Regulations:

SBSD Policy: 17.800.00, 17.875.00, 17.890.10

NCCHC: J-F-05

Title 15: 1206, 1208, 1210

*Revisions to Previous Policy 314.4 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, 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. Health services staff shall ensure the benefits of breastfeeding are explained to all pregnant and postpartum/breastfeeding patients and provide a voluntary lactation program. 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 Health Services lactation program through various methods including:

1. Completion of the Rights Advisal in the EHR;
2. Educational prenatal and postpartum information packets provided to the patient;
3. Signage posted in female housing areas; and
4. Encounters with Health Services 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



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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 and storage timeline. 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.



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H. Transfer or Release of Patient: The QHP 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.

Definitions: *For the context of this policy, the following definitions apply:*

QMHP: MH RN, MH Clinician, MH Provider who by virtue of their education, credentials, and experience are permitted by law to evaluate and care for patients.

QHP (Qualified Healthcare Professional): includes physicians, physicians assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, dentist, and other who by virtue of their education, credentials, and experience are permitted by law to evaluate and care for patients.

EHR: Electronic Health Record

References:

Title 15: <https://www.bscc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/Final-regulation-Text-2023.04.01-Clean-Copy-for-Web.pdf>

SBSD Policy: 17.800.00, 17.875.00, 17.890.10 Detention and Corrections Bureau Policy and Procedure

National Commission on Correctional Health Care. (2018). *NCCHC standards for health services in jails* (2018 ed.). National Commission on Correctional Health Care.



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<u>Reviewed and approved by</u>	<u>Signature and Date</u>
<u>Health Services Administrator</u> 1. Sara Manning (HSA)	<i>Sara Manning</i> 6/26/25
<u>Chief Medical Officer</u> 1. Jeff Haga (CMO)	<i>Jeff Haga</i> 6/26/25