





SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**Behavioral Wellness**  
A System of Care and Recovery

**Programmatic  
Policy and Procedure**

<b>Section</b>	Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF)	<b>Effective:</b>	9/28/2016
<b>Sub-section</b>	Infection Prevention	<b>Version:</b>	1.1
<b>Policy</b>	Glucometer Policy	<b>Last Revised:</b>	2/4/2019
<b>Director's Approval</b>	 _____ Alice Gleghorn, PhD	<b>Date</b>	<u>7/12/19</u>
<b>PHF Medical Director's Approval</b>	 _____ Ole Behrendtsen, MD	<b>Date</b>	<u>2.12.19</u>
<b>Supersedes:</b>	Glucometer Policy eff. 9/28/2016		
<b>Approvals:</b>	PHF Medical Practice Committee: 1/23/2019	PHF Governing Board:	2/4/2019

## 1. PURPOSE/SCOPE

- 1.1. To establish standards and procedures for the cleaning and disinfection of multi-use glucometers utilized by Santa Barbara County Psychiatric Health Facility (hereafter "PHF") licensed nursing staff (LNS).

## 2. DEFINITIONS

The following terms are limited to the purposes of this policy:

- 2.1. **Licensed nursing staff (LNS)** – an individual employed or contracted by the PHF who holds a valid California license as a: registered nurse (RN); licensed vocational nurse (LVN); or licensed psychiatric technician (LPT).
- 2.2. **Cleaning** – removal of visible soil from objects and surfaces, normally accomplished manually or mechanically using cleaning products and implements.
- 2.3. **Disinfection** – a process that eliminates many or all pathogenic microorganisms, except bacterial spores, on inanimate objects.

## 3. POLICY

- 3.1. Patient-care medical devices, including glucose monitoring devices, can transmit pathogens if contaminated with blood or body fluids and shared without cleaning and disinfecting between uses for different patients. To ensure the safety and highest quality of care of patients, LNS are responsible for cleaning and disinfecting glucometers in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, state and federal laws and regulations, manufacturers' guidelines, and this policy.

- 3.2. The PHF shall use hospital-grade multi-use blood glucose monitors approved by the PHF Medical Practice Committee (MPC).

#### **4. STANDARDS**

- 4.1. The PHF will use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered germicidal or bleach wipes effective against the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), and the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) as instructed by the manufacturer.
  1. All cleaning and disinfecting agents must be permitted for use in healthcare settings and approved by the PHF's Medical Practice Committee (MPC).
- 4.2. PHF LNS will be orientated and tested for competency on glucometer cleaning and disinfecting upon hire and annually thereafter.
- 4.3. PHF LNS will clean and disinfect glucometers after each patient use.

#### **5. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROCEDURE**

- 5.1. PHF LNS will follow the guidelines listed below for the cleaning and disinfecting of glucometers and consult the manufacturer's instructions for additional information (located onsite in the PHF'S Glucometer Quality Control Manual):
  1. Put on exam gloves and adhere to standard infection prevention precautions. Change gloves between patient contacts and after every procedure that involves potential exposure to blood or body fluids.
  2. Clean and disinfect the meter according to manufacturer's instructions with the appropriate cleaning/disinfecting products.
  3. Allow the meter to remain wet for the required wet contact time of the disinfectant as instructed on the label of the disinfectant product.
  4. Allow the glucometer to air dry fully after disinfection.

**ASSISTANCE**

Andra Dillard, MSN, PHN, RN, CIC, Infection Preventionist

**REFERENCE**

Code of Federal Regulations – Public Health  
*Title 42, Section 482.42(a)*

Association for Professionals in Infection Control (APIC) and Epidemiology  
*Text of Infection Control and Epidemiology (2014), 64:8.*

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
*Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health Care Facilities, 2003*

Infection Prevention during Blood Glucose Monitoring and Insulin Administration. Access at:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/blood-glucose-monitoring.html>

**RELATED POLICIES**

[Blood Glucose Monitoring](#)

[Standard Precautions](#)

**REVISION RECORD**

DATE	VERSION	REVISION DESCRIPTION
2/4/2019	1.1	Clarified cleaning and disinfection process for glucometers.

***Culturally and Linguistically Competent Policies***

*The Department of Behavioral Wellness is committed to the tenets of cultural competency and understands that culturally and linguistically appropriate services are respectful of and responsive to the health beliefs, practices and needs of diverse individuals. All policies and procedures are intended to reflect the integration of diversity and cultural literacy throughout the Department. To the fullest extent possible, information, services and treatments will be provided (in verbal and/or written form) in the individual's preferred language or mode of communication (i.e. assistive devices for blind/deaf).*