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Title 22@ Social Security

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Division 2@ Department of Social Services-Department of Health Services

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Part 2@ Health and Welfare Agency-Department of Health Services Regulations

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Subdivision 6@ Preventive Medical Services

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Chapter 8@ Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Testing of Inmates in Correctional Facilities

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Article 4@ TESTING PROCEDURES

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Section 41144@ Phlebotomy Procedures

41144 Phlebotomy Procedures

(a)

The following venipuncture technique and specimen collection procedures shall be utilized in withdrawing blood: (1) Proper hand-washing techniques before and after drawing blood shall be observed. (2) Gloves shall be worn at all times, including when cleaning up blood spills. (3) If non-gloved hands come into contact with blood, hands shall be immediately and thoroughly washed with soap and water. When hands are contaminated with blood, care shall be taken not to touch any other part of the body. (4) Blood spills shall be cleaned up promptly with a disinfectant solution, including but not limited to, sodium hypochlorite (household bleach), 5.25% 1:10 dilution, or 70 per cent alcohol. These disinfectants shall be readily available. (5) A separation tube that provides a means of collecting and separating blood in a closed evacuated glass tube shall be used where applicable. (6) The test subject shall be positioned so that if he or she faints, he or she will not fall. Use of a venipuncture chair is recommended. (7) 2-5 ml of blood shall be withdrawn for the HIV test. The needle shall be immediately disposed of in an appropriate container, as specified in subsection (b). (8) The tube of blood shall be immediately labeled with the number from the HIV laboratory form and the test subject verify the lab number.

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(b)

Disposal of equipment shall be as follows: (1) To prevent needle stick injuries, needles shall not be recapped, purposely bent or broken, removed from disposable syringes, or otherwise manipulated by hand. Needles shall be placed into

puncture-resistant containers located as close as practical to the area in which they are used. (2) Used cotton swabs and other disposable equipment soiled with blood or other bodily fluids shall be placed in a covered container inside a red plastic bag. (3) Infectious and/or biohazardous waste shall be placed in a container, treated and disposed of in accordance with chapter 30, commencing with section 66835, article 13 of division 4 of Title 22 California Code of Regulations. (4) Liners soiled with blood shall be promptly placed in an impervious bag which shall be labeled "Infectious Waste," in accordance with section 66840, division 4, Title 22, California Code of Regulations.

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(c)

Needle stick injuries shall be dealt with as follows: (1) All injuries shall be immediately reported through channels to the immediate supervisor and communicable disease control personnel for appropriate evaluation. (2) It is recommended that personnel who have sustained a needle stick shall be tested for HIV antibody and hepatitis B immediately after exposure to establish baselines. Pre-test counseling and post-test counseling shall be provided by a physician, registered nurse, or other health professionals who have knowledge of the transmission, prevention and etiology of HIV infection and AIDS. If sero-negative, a re-test shall be done after 6 weeks and on a periodic basis thereafter, (e.g., 3, 6, and 12 months following exposure) to determine if transmission has occurred. These follow-up tests shall be completed regardless of the results of the source patient because of the possibility the source patient is incubating the virus. (3) Personnel shall be provided the opportunity to be treated with the hepatitis B vaccine for their protection.

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(d)

Withdrawn blood specimens shall be handled as follows: (1) If refrigerated, the specimen shall remain at room temperature for 30 minutes before refrigeration. (2) Specimens shall be refrigerated at 40 degrees fahrenheit for no longer than 1 week. (3) Specimens shall not be frozen.

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