





Legal Blood Draws

CHAPTER:	2000	Number:	2100	APPROVED:	2.20.2020
REPLACES:	Blood Alcohol Draws				
Last Revised:	February 20, 2020		REVIEW:		
APPROVED:			Joe Hoffman, Medical Program Director		
APPROVED:			John Oliver, Chair		

I. Purpose

To clarify Kitsap County’s position regarding legal blood draws.

II. Policy

Washington State EMS personnel authorized to start an IV may assist law enforcement agencies byperforming a legal venous blood draw at law enforcement’s request per RCW 46.61.506. These blood draws may be performed according to below procedures.

III. Procedure

- A. The primary duty of a paramedic is to perform emergency medical care under medical control. Paramedics shall not leave or postpone the treatment of an injured or sick person to draw blood for a non-patient, legal blood draw request.
- B. RCW 46.61.506 states that when a blood test is administered, the withdrawal of blood shall only be performed by a Physician, RN, an AEMT, Paramedic, or qualified technician. (This does **NOT** include EMT’s with an IV endorsement.)
- C. RCW 46.20.308 provides implied consent for any individual who has been arrested on any offense where, at the time of the arrest, the arresting officer has reasonable grounds to believe the person had been driving or was in control of a vehicle while intoxicated.
- D. If requested, and the EMS provider’s agency allows, a Physician, RN, AEMT, Paramedic, or qualified technician, shall perform a legal blood draw for law enforcement. The procedure delineated by law enforcement and legal blood draw kit must be followed correctly.
- E. An attempted legal blood draw or attempted blood draw, is an invasive procedure and must be documented on a patient care report. For the purposes of the legal blood draw, the individual whose blood was drawn will not be considered a patient. Therefore, per MPD requirements, a full evaluation or report need not be written. Individual agencies may tailor this requirement to their own needs.