



DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH POLICY/PROCEDURE

SUBJECT BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING	POLICY NO. 302.11	EFFECTIVE DATE 04/27/2015	PAGE 1 of 2
APPROVED BY:  Director	SUPERSEDES N/A	ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE 04/27/2015	DISTRIBUTION LEVEL(S) 1

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide direction to Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) staff for screening of a client's blood pressure (BP).

DEFINITION

- 2.1 **Blood Pressure Screening:** The measurement of BP for the purposes of detecting possible clinical abnormalities that may result in a referral to a physical healthcare provider for further assessment and management.

POLICY

- 3.1 All clients prescribed psychotropic medications shall have a BP screening measured and documented at least once a year by professional staff using the equipment and instructions provided by manufacturer.
- 3.1.1 The professional staff approved to screen client's BP are those with the following licensures:
- Medical Doctor (MD)/Doctor of Osteopathy (DO)
 - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)
 - Registered Nurse (RN)
 - Licensed Psychiatric Technician (LPT)

PROCEDURE

- 4.1 The program manager shall implement proper procedures for the cleaning, calibration, and repair of BP machines per manufacturer's instructions and specifications.



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- 4.2 In instances in which the measured BP appears clinically abnormal or cannot be obtained, the responsible MD/DO/PMHNP shall be immediately notified.
- 4.3 Whenever a BP screening measurement is documented, the responsible MD/DO/PMHNP shall document the review and assessment of that measurement during the same clinical visit.

AUTHORITY

- 1. LACDMH Administrative Directive

ATTACHMENT (HYPERLINKED)

- 1. [Adult Blood Pressure Monitoring Recommendations](#)

REFERENCE

- 1. Community Behavioral Health Services Adult Blood Pressure Monitoring Guidelines, Department of Public Health, City and County of San Francisco, October 2012

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

LACDMH Office of the Medical Director