LAW ENFORCEMENT PHLEBOTOMY

PHLEBOTOMY IN MN
- Began working on the program in 2008
- Identified a issue in SE MN
- First training held in 2011
- Held annually until 2016

PHLEBOTOMY IN MN
- Twice annually since 2017
- Currently 91 law enforcement phlebotomists in 38 agencies
- Other officers trained through other means
- 2100 draws since inception

WHY PHLEBOTOMY?
- Drugged driving is on the rise nationwide
  - Blood samples have increased 33% in last 5 years (MN)
- DWI arrest are law enforcement duties
- ‘Nurse’ involvement for law enforcement purposes
- ‘Nurse’ availability for court
- Draw can be completed at S.O./P.D. not hospital

WHY PHLEBOTOMY?
- Utilize other LEO resources
  (Arresting Officer – DRE – Phlebotomist)
- Don’t have to be a DRE
- You will need this skill!
- A fix before the problem becomes a problem
WHAT IS PHLEBOTOMY?
Phlebotomy is the act of drawing blood either for testing or transfusion.

PHLEBOTOMY
Certification is legally required in only four states.

WHAT IS PHLEBOTOMY?
It is a skill employed by physicians and many professionals in allied health fields, including medical assistants, paramedics, and clinical laboratory scientists.

MN STANDARDS
A blood draw is a blood draw.
You are only ‘authorized’ to draw for law enforcement related activities.

PHLEBOTOMY
In everyday life, blood is drawn in a number of places outside of hospitals.

MN STANDARDS
Ensure that your draw is performed in a controlled setting:
- PD, SO, jail, etc.
Make sure Jail, P.D., S.O. are aware of your skill and that you will be drawing at their facility.
MN STANDARDS

Clean (vs. Sterile) Location

Consider alternative testing options for uncooperative subjects

**ALWAYS** use a ‘stable platform’
- Not on the trunk lid or in the back seat

MN IMPLIED CONSENT STATUTE

169A.51

Subd. 7. Requirements for conducting tests; liability.
(a) Only a physician, medical technician, emergency medical technician-paramedic, medical technologist, medical laboratory technician, **phlebotomist**, registered nurse, or other qualified person acting at the request of a peace officer may withdraw blood for the purpose of determining the presence of alcohol, a controlled substance or its metabolite, or a hazardous substance. This limitation does not apply to the taking of a breath or urine sample.

THE KIT

- **SIGNATURES**
  - MEDICAL PERSONNEL CERTIFICATE, SAMPLE INFORMATION SHEET, BLOOD TUBE LABELS
- **TUBES**
  - POWDER PRESENT
- **NEEDLE**
  - SEAL INTACT
- **IODINE**
  - NOT ALCOHOL SWAB

SUPPLIES NOT IN BCA KIT

- **TOURNIQUET**
- **BANDAGES, GAUZE, TAPE**
- **GLOVES**
- **SHARPS CONTAINER**
LOG/DOCUMENTATION

Complete a supplemental report per your agency’s policy
Include:
- Name
- Date/time
- Location of draw
- Kit number
- “Sealed”
- “Powder present”
- Type of cleaner used
- Arm used
- Kit completion

LOG/DOCUMENTATION

On 04/27/2011 at approximately 1650 hours, a blood draw was conducted on DOE at the Woodbury Police Department intake area.

Being a trained MN Law Enforcement Phlebotomist and employed through the City of Woodbury as such, I conducted the blood draw on DOE.

The BCA Blood Kit # 9999999 (Lot # 10117 / Expiration Date Aug, 31, 2011) was intact and sealed prior to opening it. All appropriate contents of the kit were present including powder being present in both test tubes.

I drew blood from DOE from his right antecubital vein. The site was prepped with the provided iodine wipe.

Both test tubes were filled and placed back into the kit. The appropriate paperwork was completed and the kit was sealed. The kit was turned over to Officer Johnson.

During the blood draw procedure, no unusual circumstances were noted. The medical certificate was signed by myself as an EMT/Paramedic.

ANNUAL REQUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

• Perform a minimum of 4 successful venipunctures per year as witnessed and verified by qualified, licensed medical personnel.

• Attend a requalification course in phlebotomy techniques when offered by the MN Phlebotomy Coordinator.

LOG/DOCUMENTATION

Maintain a log of draws to show proficiency.
Submit log and all reports to Minnesota state law enforcement phlebotomy coordinator annually.

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QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

How did you get certified to draw blood?
Not certified, qualified

Describe the venipuncture procedure.
Be able to explain all the way through, not leaving out any steps.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

Did you clean the top of the tube?
Why not?
Why do you not do some things they will ask you about?
It’s not part of the procedure.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

Tell me about the gray top tube - what’s in it?
What do those additives do?
Did you check to see that the additive was in it?
How do you know that was the additive and not baking soda?
Need to know contents of tube and what they do.
Be prepared for unfair questions - is it your job to chemically test the additive?

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

What did you clean the arm with?
Was that povidone-iodine or tincture of iodine?
What if you don’t have povidone-iodine?
Tincture of iodine has alcohol in it. Your blood kit has povidone-iodine. What are some other options for cleaning?

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

How did you keep your equipment/gloves sterile?
Not sterile, clean. (how can you keep them clean?)

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

What location did you draw the blood at?
(Where, physically? Outside, inside, etc.)
Be prepared to explain why you drew them where you did.
Key parameters - seated, safe, secure.
QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

How do you clean hands when a sink is not available?
Hand sanitizer all that is required unless heavy contamination.

How do you show didn't transfer "alcohol" to subject?
Let hands completely dry, put on gloves before touching them, etc.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

As a law enforcement phlebotomist, do you have standards of practice?
CLSI guidelines.
Adhere to national venipuncture standard.
MN Standards.