

CORRECTIONAL MANAGED HEALTH CARE POLICY MANUAL	Effective Date: 3/7/2017	NUMBER: I-68.2
	Replaces: 3/17/2016	
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DNA SPECIMEN COLLECTION		

PURPOSE: To describe the process by which blood specimens are collected for DNA testing.

POLICY: A blood specimen will be collected on inmates per the requirements of House Bill 40, 74th Legislature, Regular Session.

PROCEDURES:

- I. At all facilities where inmates are processed into TDCJ, the medical department will be provided a daily list of inmates who require collection of a DNA specimen. The specimen will be collected as part of this intake process. Unit classification staff will also inform the medical departments at other units within the system of inmates requiring DNA collection who were not identified as requiring specimen collection during the intake process.
- II. Facility medical staff at all facilities will access the “Inmates Requiring DNA Testing” computer screen (at least once per week) to identify inmates who were not previously identified and who are in need of DNA specimen collection. For facilities that have larger numbers of inmates requiring DNA specimen collection, it is not necessary that all specimens be collected at one time. Any inmate who is within 180 days of release must have the specimen collected. The facilities should make every effort to collect specimens from all inmates on the list as resources permit.
- III. For inmates identified in Steps I and II above, it is the responsibility of the facility management team to designate staff that will be responsible for the following:
 - A. Collecting the specimens per the instructions in the DNA specimen collection kit. Specimens are to be collected as soon as the inmates have been identified. A minimum of 5ml of blood is required.
 - B. Obtain thumb prints and complete the form contained in the DNA collection kit.
 - C. Re-package, seal and mail the specimen and forms to the Department of Public Safety crime lab per the instructions in the kit.
 - D. Record the DNA specimen collection or refusal on the inmate's HSO1.
- IV. Refer to Administrative Directive 03.17 for a comprehensive description of the DNA collection process. This directive includes information on the identification process, collection, disciplinary action for refusals, use of force, monitoring and other information that may be helpful in understanding the overall process and the responsibilities of the various departments involved.

Reference: Code of Criminal Procedure Chapter 61
TDCJ Administrative Directive 03.17 (AD-03.17)