



POLICY AND PROCEDURE NO. 740.1

Guidelines for Detox vs. Emergency Room Disposition

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1 Pages

Appropriate for Detox if all of the following indicators are met:

- Person is able to walk (even unsteadily) independently.
- Person is able to form words (doesn't need to be a coherent sentence).
- Person has a blood alcohol level of .250 or lower, as indicated by breathalyzer.
- Person has no obvious signs of head injury or other serious injury requiring medical attention.
- Person verbalizes willingness to voluntarily be admitted to Detox.

For individuals who meet indicators 1 through 4, but not 5:

- Persons with a home address should be taken home.
- Persons who are homeless should be brought to HOAP triage for assessment.

Appropriate for Emergency Room if any of the following indicators are met:

- Person is not able to walk independently.
- Person is not able to form words.
- Person has a blood alcohol level of greater than .250.
- Person has obvious signs of head injury or other serious injury.

Prepared by Community Healthlink, for use by Worcester Police Department – 11/19/09