

## BHS Policies and Procedures



City and County of San Francisco  
 Department of Public Health  
 San Francisco Health Network  
 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

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### Policy/Procedure: The Provision of and Reporting of Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)

Issued By:

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 Director of Systems of Care

Date: April 5, 2022

Manual Number: 1.04-06

References: [California Welfare and Institutions Code 5325-5337](#)  
 and;  
[California Code of Regulations Title 9 Sections 835-849](#)

### Substantive Revision. Replaces 1.04-06 of December 13, 2010

**Equity Statement:** The San Francisco Department of Public Health, Behavioral Health Services (BHS) is committed to leading with race and prioritizing Intersectionality, including sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, class, nationality, language, and ability. BHS strives to move forward on the continuum of becoming an anti-racist institution through dismantling racism, building solidarity among racial groups, and working towards becoming a Trauma-Informed/Trauma Healing Organization in partnership with staff, clients, communities, and our contractors. We are committed to ensuring that every policy or procedure, developed and implemented, leads with an equity and anti-racist lens. Our policies will provide the highest quality of care for our diverse clients. We are dedicated to ensuring that our providers are equipped to provide services that are responsive to our clients' needs and lived experiences.

**Purpose:** Policy regarding the reporting of Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) in the City and County of San Francisco

**Scope:** All providers of ECT in the City and County of San Francisco and the county Mental Health Director

**Policy:** The use of and reporting of Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) is outlined in [California Welfare and Institutions Code 5325-5337](#) and [California Code of Regulations Title 9 Sections 835-849](#). The regulations include the following reporting requirements:

#### Duties of ECT providers:

Provider ECT reporting requirements outlined in WIC 5326.15 are summarized as follows:

Quarterly, any doctor or facility which administers convulsive treatments, shall report to the local mental health director, who shall transmit a copy to the Director of Health Care Services, the number of persons who received such treatments wherever administered, in each of the following categories:

1. Involuntary patients who gave informed consent.
2. Involuntary patients who were deemed incapable of giving informed consent and received convulsive treatment against their will.
3. Voluntary patients who gave informed consent.

4. Voluntary patients deemed incapable of giving consent.

The reporter of ECT activities will submit the [DHCS 1806 \(MH 309\): Convulsive Treatments Administered - Quarterly Report \(use DHCS 1011\)](#) form quarterly.

**Duties of the City and County of San Francisco Mental Health Director:**

Local Mental Health Director ECT reporting requirements outlined in WIC 5326.9 and 5326.91 are summarized as follows:

The local Mental Health Director, or his or her designee, shall investigate any alleged or suspected violation of the rights of patients undergoing ECT assessment or treatment, and report quarterly any such findings to the State of California Director of Health Care Services.

If it discovered that ECT was provided at a location other than a facility defined in Section 1250 of the California Health and Safety Code, the local mental health director shall establish a post-audit review committee to review the situation and then will report quarterly to the State of California Director of Health Care Services if there were any violations discovered.

**Contact Person:** Co-Chief Medical Officer, Behavioral Health Services, 415-255-3447

**Attachment(s):**

[California Code of Regulations Title 9 Sections 835-849](#)  
[California Code of Regulations Title 17 Sections 50801 et seq.](#)  
[California Welfare and Institutions Code 5150-5404](#)  
[California Welfare and Institutions Code 5325-5337](#)  
[California Health and Safety Code Section 1250](#)

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