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|  | **Title**: | MEDICATION COLLECTION | | **Policy #** | | I.2.05 |
| **Division:** | Investigation | | **Page:** | | Page 1 of 1 |
| **Coroner Signature:** | |  | **NAME Reference:** | | B3k | |
| **Approved/Revised Date:** | | **02-20-2024** | **IACME Reference:** | | A6c,A9c,B1r | |



**POLICY**:

All prescription medications located at the scene of an investigation, and prescribed to the decedent, shall be collected by Investigation staff, and transported to the Ada County Coroner’s Office (ACCO) for processing.

**PROCEDURE**:

1. All medications will be photographed, collected, and inventoried into the ACCO case management system.
   1. In cases of homicide/suspected homicide, law enforcement shall be advised prior to medication seizure.
      1. Any medication collected by law enforcement shall be photographed, counted, and documented, on scene, prior to collection.
2. Collected medications will be inventoried.
   1. Processing medications shall include two employees, when practicable
   2. Ointments and liquids shall be estimated.
3. Investigation staff shall attempt to identify loose medication utilizing reference software and/or material.
4. Unidentified or degraded medication will be notated as “unidentified” in the case management system.
5. Additional medications (i.e., those not prescribed to the decedent), will be photographed, collected, and inventoried into the case management system if the Investigator believes such medication is related to the death.
6. All collected medications from non-jurisdictional cases will be properly inventoried, bagged, labeled, sealed, and placed in the designated secure storage for disposal by Forensic staff.
7. For any medication inadvertently collected, Investigation staff will expend reasonable effort in locating and returning to the prescribed owner.
   1. If such individual cannot be located, or medication cannot be returned, it will be destroyed pursuant to proper medication destruction methods.
8. Procedures for illicit drugs found on scene shall be in accordance with ACCO Policy: *On Scene Evidence and Property Collection.*