

# OREGON STATE HOSPITAL

PORTLAND – SALEM

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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SECTION 8: Safety, Security, Emergency  
Management

POLICY: 8.036

SUBJECT: Minimizing Violence in Forensic  
Evaluation Service

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POINT: SIMRAT SETHI  
PERSON: DIRECTOR, FORENSIC EVALUATION SERVICE

APPROVED: GREGORY P. ROBERTS  
SUPERINTENDENT

DATE: March 1, 2012

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### I. POLICY

It is the policy of Forensic Evaluation Service (FES) to minimize the possibility of physical violence among OSH (Oregon State Hospital) employees, visitors, patients, and defendants involved in an evaluation. Steps necessary to accomplish this include methods of acquiring pertinent information about potential violence as well as communicating that information to all persons who need it.

The personnel involved in this policy and procedure are: OSH security staff assigned to FES, FES evaluators, the FES administrative assistant, OSH unit staff who work with inpatients and assist in transporting them to FES, Deputy Sheriffs who transport jail inmates to OSH for evaluation, attorneys and their staff who attend evaluations on behalf of their clients, the .370 patients (inpatients), and the jail inmates transported to OSH for evaluation (outpatients).

### II. DEFINITIONS

A. The "Broset Violence Checklist (BVC or Broset)" is an evaluative instrument used to assess and convey short-term risk of violence. Oregon State Hospital shall use this instrument and when possible this shall be augmented with pertinent information related to clinical observations.

### III. PROCEDURES

A. When information is conveyed to FES before an evaluation that a potential client for outpatient evaluation has a known and high risk of violence toward others, efforts shall be made, whenever possible and practical, to

conduct the evaluation without transporting the client, for example, in a jail or prison, or by video conference.

- B. Prior to any evaluation, whenever information is conveyed to any OSH staff that a client scheduled for FES evaluation (inpatient or outpatient) may pose a risk of harm due to individual historical data, that information shall be conveyed to the FES administrative assistant who shall, in turn, convey it to the assigned evaluator, to the security staff working with FES, and to anyone else who may require that information.
- C. When the person being evaluated is escorted to FES, the escort (generally either OSH unit staff for inpatients or the Deputy Sheriff for outpatients) shall present to OSH security a completed Broset (Attachment 1). If the Broset is not already completed, the OSH security personnel shall ask the escort to complete it at the time they enter the FES interview area. The security personnel shall take note of any score of 2 or greater on the Broset as indicating increased risk of physical violence.
- D. For a client who enters OSH for an evaluation on his or her own recognizance and not escorted, the Broset is not required.
- E. When security personnel believe for any reason that a client appearing in FES for evaluation poses a high risk the security personnel may elect to place the client into the non-contact room, pending a conference with the evaluator. Their mutual decision may be to continue to use the non-contact room or to move the client to a regular room.
- F. Prior to the start of the evaluation it is a responsibility of the security personnel to tell the FES evaluator of any report(s) of potential risk and of the Broset score.
- G. All persons brought to OSH from jails for evaluation shall remain in the same type of restraint used during transport (usually wrist and/or ankle restraint) until the security staff and evaluator confer about changing any restraint. Once there is agreement between the evaluator and security the security personnel shall make any necessary changes in the restraints. If the evaluator needs time to begin the evaluation to make an assessment of risk, he or she must again confer with security about changing the restraint.
- H. For jail inmates with a Broset score of 2 or greater AND a report from the deputy or elsewhere that there is a high risk, the security personnel shall ask the transporting deputies to remain on site during the evaluation. If one of those two factors indicate a risk (i.e., EITHER a Broset of 2 or greater OR a report of high risk), the security shall ask the deputies to

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remain no more than ten (10) minutes away and be prepared to be called if any urgent matter ensues. Oregon Sate Hospital security shall secure and maintain the method of communication with the deputy (typically a cell phone).

**IV.    ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – OSH Forensic Evaluation Service, Short Term Risk of Physical Violence As Assessed Using the Broset Violence Checklist (Broset)

**V.     REFERENCES**

New Oregon State Hospital policy.