

Selecting Medical Supplies and Equipment

A. Purpose of Procedure:

Medical equipment purchased by WIC agencies must meet standards established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Medical equipment shall be able to be recalibrated in accord with procedures outlined in the Iowa WIC Policy and Procedure Manual.

B. Scope of the Procedure:

Selection criteria for specific equipment.

C. General Procedure:

Scales

Scales must be:

- Adjustable back to zero
- Accurate
- Able to reproduce weights to within 10 grams
- Durable and easy to maintain
- Pediatric scales must be accurate to within 0.5 ounces and adult scales must be accurate to within 4 ounces
- All scales need to be checked at least once a year to make sure they are accurate. (See **Evaluation and Maintenance of Scales Procedure**)

Stature Boards

Stature boards must be:

- Readable to the nearest one-eighth inch
- Made of functional, durable, and easy-to-clean materials
- Made with no sharp edges, exposed screws, or unfinished parts.

Note: Wall-mounted devices must be permanently attached to a wall without a baseboard. Measuring rods on physicians' scales are not approved for measuring height.

Length Boards

Length boards must have a rigid headboard and movable footboard and must be:

- Readable to the nearest one-eighth inch
- Made of functional, durable, and easy-to-clean materials
- Made with no sharp edges, exposed screws, or unfinished parts

Hemoglobinometers

The HemoCue and Pronto (noninvasive) brands are currently the only approved hemoglobinometers for use in WIC clinics.

Cleaning

Follow manufacturers' instructions for cleaning and maintaining equipment. See Policy "Infection Control Guidelines" for more information on cleaning clinic supplies and equipment.