

Evaluation and Maintenance of Scales

A. Purpose of the Procedure:

All scales need to be checked against a standard to make sure they are accurate.

B. Scope of the Procedure:

All scales need to be checked at least once a year against a standard by using test weights to make sure they are accurate. If a scale is found to be inaccurate, then it needs to be calibrated or replaced.

C. General Procedure:

Digital scales need to be calibrated by a trained scale technician.

Upright balance beam scales must be calibrated on-site because shipping upsets the calibration. Local scale companies and some hospitals provide service for upright and portable balance beam scales.

Scale companies will sometimes service portable scales purchased from them. The cost may vary depending on whether your agency has a service agreement, and whether the scales are calibrated on-site or shipped.

A set of test weights is an allowable WIC expense.

As part of the clinic visit, the state office will verify that scales are being calibrated at least annually.