STANDING ORDER

BLOOD IN EMESIS, STOOL OR SPUTUM OR BLACK STOOLS OR COFFEE-GROUND EMESIS

I. ASSESSMENT

A. Obtain medical history for gastrointestinal problems, respiratory disease, ulcers, hemorrhoids and recent injuries or surgeries.

B. Take vital signs, including temperature.

C. Observe stool, emesis, or sputum and document findings

D. Obtain emesis, sputum or stool for occult blood or culture, if ordered by the Facility Provider.

II. MANAGEMENT

A. Notify Facility Provider if assessment of specimen shows evidence of blood (this includes black stools and coffee-ground emesis)

B. If inmate is having bright-red OR coffee-ground emesis have patient transported to Emergency Room for evaluation immediately.

C. If inmate is having black or bloody stools, schedule patient to see Facility Provider at next clinic day.