#21-045

TO: WIC Regional Directors
    WIC Local Agency Directors

FROM: Amanda Hovis, Director
       Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit
       Nutrition Services Section

DATE: May 21, 2021

SUBJECT: Health O Meter 597KL Equipment

This memo is to clarify the use of the Health O Meter 597KL Equipment. The Health O Meter 597KL is approved for use in obtaining weight, but the measuring rod should not be used to measure standing height. Measuring rods attached to scales should never be used because the surface on which the client stands is not always stable. In addition, the measuring rod’s hinge tends to become loose, may not maintain a right-angle position, and can cause inaccurate readings. Instructions for removing the height rod on the Health O Meter 597KL scale are attached to this memo if the LA prefers to remove the rod.

Standing height must be measured using a State Agency approved stadiometer. Local agencies (LAs) that have the Health O Meter 597KL and do not have standard height measuring equipment may continue to use the hinged measuring rod until proper equipment is purchased if needed. Appropriate measuring equipment must be obtained by September 30, 2021.

Standard measuring procedures using the hinged measuring rod on a standing scale should continue to be followed until the proper equipment is obtained. These procedures include the following:

- Measuring a client’s height while they stand in their natural stance with their back towards the rod.
- Ensuring proper body positioning by using the mid-axillary line.
- Ensuring correct head positioning using the Frankfort Plane.
• Lowering the hinged measuring rod until it firmly touches the crown of the head at a right angle.
• Reading the height measurement at eye level where specified on the equipment.

Full procedures related to proper measuring technique and standard equipment are outlined in the Weighing and Measuring training in the Texas WIC Training Catalog.

For information on approved measuring equipment, contact Leona Duong at Leona.Duong@hhs.texas.gov and for information on measuring procedures, contact Tiffany Brown at Tiffany.Brown@hhs.texas.gov.
INSTRUCTIONS
REMOVING HEIGHT ROD FROM HEALTHOMETER 597KL

Tools Needed: Philips Screw Driver

Step 1 Using a Philips screwdriver, loosen and remove the bottom mount screw from the rear of the scale column.

Step 2 Remove the bottom plate from the column and then from the height rod. Retain the mounting plate.

Step 3 Repeat Step 1 and 2 for top screw and plate.

Step 4 Replace top mounting plate and secure with mount screw. Repeat for bottom mounting plate.

For technical assistance:
Perspective Enterprises
customerservice@perspectiveent.com
800-323-7452