

The Laboratory Times

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*Order products not tests
for example RBC, FFP,
PLT, and CRYO.
Neonates: RBCN, FFPN,
and PLTN.*

What's New?

In case you haven't noticed, the Point of Care Newsletter has now become the *Laboratory Times*. Many of you have lab related questions. What a better way to get that information to you but with a newsletter complete with cool pictures. *The Laboratory Times* will be a quarterly newsletter. Our goal is to communicate information about the laboratory to the hospital staff. Because the laboratory is an essential part of the hospital, we hope to assist the nurses achieve better patient care by opening up the lines of education and communication. This newsletter is a work in progress; therefore, any questions and/or suggestions are greatly appreciated. Please drop them off in the lab at the front desk.

Blood Bank

For all of those nurses who have to stop and count the information on the blood bank armband, you are not alone. There are a total of 8 identifiers that should be on the armbands, before a patient can receive blood. Counting is a great way to double check that you have all the information. The eight pieces of information are as follows:












- Patients full name
- MD #
- AD #
- Time
- Date
- Collectors ID
- BB# (already on strip, be sure not to tear off)
- Location

Important points to remember when handling blood products:

- Return unit to Blood Bank if not started within 30 minutes
- Transfuse all blood products through a filter in blood tubing
- Fax completed transfusion record to Blood Bank (the fax number is on the form) prior to charting original.

Blood Collection Corner

Not only should you not bandage the puncture site until bleeding has completely stopped you should also first inspect the site carefully to see if a hematoma is forming -- in the event that it does, it must be entered into the patient record (chart it!).

Order of Draw				
Vacutainer/Syringe		Microtainer		
	Be	Blood Cultures	 Please Purple	
	Willing	White	 Give Green	
	Be	Light Blue	 Your Yellow	
	Ready	Reds	 Regards Red	
	Go	Green	Always use your Collectors ID.	
	Past	Purple/Pink		
	Others	Others--Gray		

Phlebotomy Tips

- Introduce yourself to the patient and state your purpose.
- Identify patients using **2 different patient identifiers**.
- Label **all** patient samples, at the patient's bedside.
- Include (2) pt. identifiers, the time, date, collectors ID on all specimens sent to lab.
- Maximum time for a tourniquet to be a patients arm is 1 minute.
- All Blood Culture sent to Lab must have a Source and Site on label.



Smacking any site is completely unnecessary and will cause hemoconcentration of cells (resulting in erroneous and misleading lab results). It also elevates a patient's white cell count because the body perceives this as an injury! -- Lynn

Blood Culture Stats

Thank you to the nurses who are trying to improve their blood culture collection. Let's all read above and try to get back to 0!!

Non Lab Personnel Collection SMP

Feb 08	Mar 08	April 08	May 08
576	512	550	497
13	15	14	8
2.2%	2.90%	2.50%	1.60%

Total Number Sets Drawn = Row 2

Total Number sets Contaminated = Row 3

Non-Lab Contamination Rate = Row 4

90	83	63	79
0	1	1	2
0%	1.20%	1.60%	2.50%

↑HIGHLAND

Laboratory Supplies

Laboratory supply orders are to be faxed to [Ext 7780](#). In the past supply orders have been sent via tube to the lab. In order to ensure proper processing of your order, we are requesting that all supply orders be faxed. POC supplies can be checked out in the Laboratory. Only floors who, have been approved and credentialed can check out POC supplies. All supplies must be checked for expiration and the stock should be rotated. To get the best patient results tubes should be within the expiration date.



Patient Identification


It is a Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goal for all patients to be identified, using two identifiers, prior to performing any procedure on the patient. **THIS INCLUDES A SPECIMEN BEING COLLECTED FOR ACCU-CHEK BEDSIDE GLUCOSE TESTING.** The Accu-Chek meter must be programmed for patient identification AT THE BEDSIDE, by scanning the barcode on the patient's armband. If the patient has multiple armbands, please investigate and have the appropriate personnel remove the armband that is not current. All Accu-Chek testing is reported according to the patient's account number, NOT the medical record number.



You are required to have two patient identifiers such as medical record number, DOB, name etc. Also, ask the patient's name and DOB (if able) as you look at the arm band. After drawing the blood, it is mandatory that the sample tubes are labeled at the bedside, thus ensuring the correct patient was stuck.

I-STAT and Biosite STAT Procedure

For Emergent situations when a patient's AD number is not available, use the following instructions for i-STAT and Biosite only. Use procedure only when applicable.

- Draw a green top tube (i-stat) or purple top tube (biosite). Label tube at bedside using patient full name and MR number.
- Insert patient Information on Temp Log, using the corresponding barcode as the Temporary patient ID. 
- Perform test according to procedure
- When resulting, please be sure to put Patient's full name and MR number on preliminary.
- Send Temp ID Form to Lab Attn: Susan Butts POCC

Contact Information

Laboratory (St Mary) (318) 681-4354
 Laboratory (Highland) (318) 681-5434

Susan Butts (Point of Care) **Desk** – (318) 681-4788
Pager- (318) 863-9115

Rebecca Rosado **Desk** – (318) 681-4753
Pager- (318) 863- 0493

Melonie Falcon (Regional Laboratory Director / Laboratory Director - St Mary)
 Lisa Carthon (Laboratory Director – Highland Campus)

Upcoming Events

POC audits are being performed at the beginning of every month. POC classes are open to anyone who has POC testing performed on their nursing unit. **You must be credentialed to perform POC tests.** All new nurses must make it a point to attend a POC class if applicable. Audits may occur on any shift and will be followed by a report card.

Thursday, August 28, 2008 will be a Skills Fair Make-up day. All employees that need POC training are encouraged to attend. The location will be the Auditorium at the St Mary Campus.

POC Classes and in services can be scheduled by calling Rebecca at 4753

JUNE 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JULY 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						