HHS/HCMC Inpatient Collections



To provide instruction on laboratory inpatient phlebotomy blood collection times.

Routine lab draws

- Labs that can be collected at the next round time or can wait until the following AM draw
 - AM DRAW
 - Orders for an expected collection between 1600 (previous date) and 0600
 - Will be collected between 4am-10am
 - MIDDAY DRAW
 - \circ Orders for an expected collection between 0600 and 1000
 - Will be collected between 11am-4pm
 - EVENING DRAW
 - \circ Orders for an expected collection between 1000 and 1600
 - Will be collected between 5pm-10pm

Timed lab draws

- Orders MUST be placed 2 hours before the expected draw time.
- Specimens will be collected ± 30 minutes of the requested collection time.
- This priority can only be used for the qualified tests listed below. All other tests will be classified as routine even if ordered as timed.

PT/INR	Troponin*	Salicylate	Peripheral morphology
APTT	Lithium	Acetaminophen	Newborn metabolic screen
Anti-Xa	Cortisol	Carbamazepine	Lactate (sepsis protocol only)
Hemoglobin	Cyclosporin	Tacrolimus	DKA BMP (DKA protocol only)
Potassium	Gentomycin	Free Dilantin	Bilirubin (newborns only)
Sodium	Tobramycin	Digoxin	
Magnesium	Valproate	Vancomycin	

• Recurring labs (q4h, q6h, etc.) should be ordered timed and only for the above listed tests. All other orders should be individually placed and will follow the routine collection process listed above.

*Troponin is a specialty order that automatically orders a series of 4 troponin tests – The first order in the series is collected STAT, the remaining three are collected Timed.

STAT lab draws

- Any test that needs to be collected immediately
- Will be collected by non-laboratory personnel. Please notify the nurse of the order so he/she can collect it.