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| Purpose | This policy and process provides workflow for preparing blood films for Malaria and other blood parasites |

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| Scope | The intended users of this document include Phlebotomists, Laboratory Assistants, Medical Laboratory Technicians, Clinical Laboratory Scientists, and Managers. |

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| Policy | * The are Medical Center laboratory is responsible for collecting and preparing blood films for malaria and other blood parasites prior to transporting to the Regional Reference Laboratories(RRL).
* The RRL is responsible for reading and reporting the results on blood/buffy coat films for malaria and other blood parasites prior to transporting the slides to the Public Health Department of the county of origin.
* EDTA collected samples needs to be ***hand-delivered*** to Hematology section for blood films preparation within 30 mins. from time of collection.
* Blood films need to be performed within 1hr. after collection.
* Send 2 thick and 2 thin smears to the RRL Bacteriology Department for Bld Smr. Parasites
* Send 4 buffy coat smears to the RRL Bacteriology Department for Leishmania parasites.
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| Blood Film Preparation | See procedure ***LAMC-PPP-1274 Preparing Blood Films for Malaria and Other Blood Parasites*** – ***Medical Centers*** and ***LAMC-PPP-0805 Appendix 1\_Buffy Coat Film Preparation for Leishmania and Other Blood Parasites – Medical Centers***for detailed procedure for blood film preparation. |

Order for Bld. Smr. Parasites/ Leishmania

Blood collection performed using EDTA collection tubes by Phlebotomists.

 START

Phlebotomists immediately hand-delivers EDTA collected sample to Hematology section

within 1 hour from collection time?

Y

Blood films are delivered to Specimen Processing Send out area for Pak tracking

Hematology CLS/MLT prepares required blood films for Bld. Smr. Parasites/ Leishmania

N

Blood films are sent to RRL Bacteriology Department on the next regularly scheduled courier run.

Reject sample, notify provider for reorder and recollection.

 END

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| Controlled Documents |

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| Procedure | Document Number |
| Safety Practices | LAMC-PPP-0123 |
| Infection Control | LAMC-PPP-0127 |
| Universal Body Substance Precaution | LAMC-PPP-0128 |
| Handling of Regular and Infectious Waste | LAMC-PPP-0129 |
| Cleaning Work Areas | LAMC-PPP-0130 |
| Hand-washing Policy | LAMC-PPP-0132 |
| Storage and Disposal of Chemical Hazardous Waste | LAMC-PPP-0134 |
| Procedure | Document Number |
| Preparing Blood Films for Malaria and Other Blood Parasites – Medical Centers | LAMC-PPP-0805 |
| Appendix 1\_Buffy Coat Film Preparation for Leishmania and Other Blood Parasites – Medical Centers | LAMC-PPP-1274 |

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