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Receipt of Home Collected Specimens by the Clinical Laboratory from Hemodialysis Patients

Introduction Many hemodialysis patients take an active role in the management of their treatment care program. Among their activities is the home collection of blood specimens for routine and non-routine clinical laboratory testing. These samples are typically returned to the local SCPMG laboratory for testing. This document summarizes the SCPMG Clinical Laboratories policies and authorization for the receipt of these clinical specimens from the hemodialysis patient or their representative.

**Definitions
and
Conditions**

- These policies are specific for specimens collected by non professionals, i.e., not by home health or professional phlebotomy services, but for collection procedures performed by the trained patient or their representative.
 - For Laboratory, the patient liability is the cost for the laboratory to process the specimen, but not to draw the blood.
 - Routine monthly “labs” (whether done by the member or someone else) should always be a \$0 which equals the lab tests for routine dialysis (LABDIAL) benefit.
 - Non-routine tests equal their outpatient lab test (LABOUTP) benefit which could be greater than \$0.
 - Manual orders are discouraged; Laboratory Orders should be placed in KPHC by the provider. (Accessioning as an “unsolicited” order in KRMS is still permitted as an exception, as needed.)
 - Blood collection supplies should be provided to the member or their representative by the local dialysis center or unit.
 - Time and date of collection should be determined via written notation by patient or representative, best recollection, or the time and date of registration.
 - A patient representative is any individual designated by the patient/member as a designee to return collected specimen to the clinical laboratory.
 - The training and competency evaluations for Home Drawn Hemodialysis patient collection procedures and transport of specimens are the responsibility of the provider, the local dialysis center, unit, or their designee.
 - Specimen identification (labeling) should be provided at the time of receipt by the patient, representative, or clerk/receptionists.
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- Policy**
- The SCPMG Laboratory System shall accept for clinical laboratory testing assignment specimens from Home Drawn Hemodialysis patients or their representative for processing.
 - Routine specimens shall be accepted as a benefit under the laboratory registration of “LABDIAL” or Laboratory Dialysis designation.
 - There shall be no blood collection charges incurred.
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Auditing and Monitoring The SCPMG Local Clinical Laboratories will report any quality issues pertaining to the collected specimens to the SCPMG Laboratory Operations Quality sub-committee for review as needed. The SCPMG Quality sub-committee will review the data and make recommendations for changes, enhancement, or clarification of the current policies.

Non-Controlled Documents The following non-controlled documents support this policy.

- SCPMG Laboratory Operations internal documents
- ISO 15189:2007 Medical Laboratory Standards

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New Lab Director - QMS

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