**STROKE ALERT INITIATION AND PROCEDUURE**

**FOR LABORATORY PERSONNEL**

**2017 KFH Fremont Laboratory Stroke Attestation**

**Policy Statement**

Clinical Laboratory ensures that the Stroke Panel test results meet the standards of the Joint Commission Stroke Certification requirements.

2.0 **Purpose**

2.1 To outline roles and responsibilities of laboratory personnel to ensure Medical Emergency Stroke Lab Panel results are provided within 45 minutes from the time of patient's arrival in the ED, and for inpatients, 45 minutes from the time the Stroke Alert is called.

2.2 To support healthcare team members during a Stroke Alert in the ED or the inpatient setting.

3.0 **Scope/Coverage**

This policy applies to all employees who are employed by the following entities

3.1 Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and Health Plan, Inc.

3.2 The Permanente Medical Group (TPMG)

4.0 **Definitions**

4.1 CLS – Clinical Laboratory Scientist

4.2 MLT - Medical Laboratory Technician

4.2 ED – Emergency Department

4.3 ME – Medical Emergency

4.4 QA – Quality Assurance

5.0 **Provisions/Procedures**

5.1 Operator Notification of Laboratory

5.1.1 Operator services will notify laboratory of a Stroke Alert per Operator Services Stroke Alert policy and procedure.

5.1.2 CLS/MLT in Chemistry department will document Stroke Alert events on the Stroke Alert Laboratory Test Log.

5.2 Laboratory Department Action Responsibilities

5.2.1 ED Phlebotomist, who is assigned to draw or pick up ME Stroke Lab Panel:

5.2.1.1 Go immediately to the patient location.

5.2.1.2 Phlebotomist or Nurse draws ME Stroke Lab Panel as per MD order. Stroke panel order set includes:

5.2.1.2.1 CBC with Platelets (lavender top tube).

5.2.1.2.2 CHEM 7 (green top tube).

5.2.1.2.3 PT/INR (blue top tube).

5.2.1.3 Place labeled specimens in zip-lock bag

5.2.1.4 Transports specimen to the laboratory. Do not use pneumatic tube system.

5.2.1.5 Hand all specimens directly to a Specimen Processing staff, alerting that the test is Medical Emergency Stroke Alert.

5.2.2 Specimen Processing staff will:

5.2.2.1 Receive specimens immediately into RILIS using the Specimen Login function.

5.2.2.2 Ensure RILIS labels are complete and affixed properly.

5.2.2.3 Hand delivers specimens immediately to appropriate laboratory department, alerting the CLS that the test is Medical Emergency Stroke Alert.

5.2.3 CLS/MLT responsible for testing:

5.2.3.1 Perform tests immediately as top priority medical emergency.

5.2.3.2 Document tests results on the Stroke Alert Laboratory Test Log.

5.2.3.3 For any Stroke Panel result that is critical, follow the Laboratory Critical Value and Early Notification Poicy.

5.2.4 For specimens with problems:

5.2.4.1 Immediately call the physician or nurse if specimens are unacceptable, e.g., clotted or hemolyzed, and document RILIS.

5.2.4.2 Notify the phlebotomist to do a Medical Emergency redraw, if needed.

5.2.5 Clinical Laboratory Scientist shift Supervisor onsite is responsible for managing the stroke alert events for the laboratory.

6.0 **Quality Assessment**

6.1 Stroke Alert Laboratory Test Log and stroke lab results are reviewed by the Laboratory Quality Assurance manager or designee and monitored monthly to ensure that results are available to the ordering physician within 45 minutes from the time of patient's arrival in the Emergency Department, and for inpatients, 45 minutes from the time the Stroke Alert is called.