April 2014 Core Lab Department Meeting

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

Attending: Diane E. Weihrauch, Anita L. Konieczny, Beth A. Albrecht, Nancy A. Buckley, Joyce A. Kniepmann, Vicky L. Douglas, Patty M. Isbill, Donna L. Fleming, Kay M. Schanuel, Carmella M. Blacet, Julia B. Sauls, Denise L. Manning, Paula L. Swierczek, Kathy T. Stanley, Evan W. Evans

1. Lab Week: New lab color picked – Teal. Rita and the UPC did a good job organizing Lab Week. Everyone liked the “You make me Happy notes,” but wished the recipient’s name was on the slip. Also, it was thought it might be a nice idea year round, not just during Lab Week.

CEU – reminder to try to watch the webinars from the vendors who supplied food for lab week.

1. Scheduling: Some reminders from Jan:
2. PTO vs. RTO/PTO are the only two categories (there is not a RTO but not PTO), however you can add a comment to the request stating you would like the RTO/PTO as your day off if you worked the weekend. Both PTO and RTO/PTO are assigned as first-come-first-approved. Yes – if we have a surplus of staff in a week, you might get your RTO/PTO as PTO in addition to a day off (even with a comment).
3. PTO approval – They try to give the approval within 3 weeks. Please after requesting check back to make sure it has been approved (especially before booking airline tickets).
4. Review before finalizing – to try to address some scheduling issues, before its final posting, the supervisors and a member of the PC will review the schedule.
5. ED tech draws: Stared on April 21st – the first day was a record patient day in the ED. They only have 2 MobiLab units in the ED – 2 ED techs are assigned each shift as primarily blood drawers. However, the other ED techs will draw blood if they feel it is needed during assessment – they will be labeled with the MCare label, and there may be cases the ED draw tech might draw blood before an order is placed and use the MobiLab demographic label in both cases you need to watch the ED tracker in Lab Processing to see when orders are placed. If you do not see an order within 30 minutes you should call ED to see if any orders are going to be placed.
6. POC help: Kathy put out an e-mail looking for an additional person to be trained on some of the Point-of-Care duties. This person would be assigned 1 or 2 POC shifts each scheduled, possibly more if Tess is on vacation.
7. Chem items:
8. Cobas 2 daily maintenance: 1. Mask e-mod - either before or after pipe.

2. Run green rack only!

**NOTE:**  You can also set the Cobas to run the green rack immediately following the pipe if you desire

3. Once in rack supply complete – un-mask e-mod – run any cals and QC for the e-mod.

4. Once green rack is in unload, load ISE cals and any other cals and QC for c-mods.

The masking of the e-mod is up to you – if you don’t mask it the machine will perform the preparation step before it runs the green rack.

1. Print Load/unload list – We realized there were a couple of tests on the C3 that were not set up as mandatory, so it wouldn’t prompt you to add. That has been corrected.
2. Reminder – throughout the month, please check that all monthly (and less frequent) maintenance items are being done so it’s not a rush at the end of the month. It is not just the Thursday maintenance techs job. If the XP bench is slow, or you have no electrophoresis specimens, your next step should be to check what maintenance is needed.
3. A question on hepatitis testing on evenings/nights shifts – they are all trained to perform the testing, so I would not hesitate to put a specimen on to run later on dayshift, and evenings and nights have the option to run any of the testing besides the required Labor stats. On nights, if it might interfere with the 0300 clean cycle, I would not run the test. However, if the HPSAG is positive and evenings and nights want to leave confirmation testing for days that is acceptable.
4. Heme items:
5. iSed – Change waste weekly (to be added to Sysmex maintenance form). Must add 10-15 mL beach to neutralize, wait 15 minutes before disposing.
6. iSed - Since there is the specimen barcode does not appear on the sed rate worksheet, it is not necessary to print a worksheet for the sed rates. You must write the patients name on the printout and you should retain the printout – staple to either a blank piece of paper or print a worksheet for the first sed rate of the day.
7. Send outs – Utilization – steering committee formed to look at send out test ordering:
8. Duplicate testing – we are developing a report to be reviewed by the send out tech to make sure unnecessary duplicate tests are cancelled (i.e. ANA ordered 2 days apart).
9. Over-utilized testing (Urine Legionella, Strep pneumo, Mycoplasma IgG, Chlamydia pneumo IgG and IgM) – these were placed on the order set for pneumo in 2012 and usage has sky-rocketed. We are look to put a comment to pop up stating the test should only be used if that type of pneumonia is suspected, not as a rule out screen.
10. Incorrect test orders – Any orders for the Vitamin D 1,25-OH should be questioned. This is not the test to look for deficiency (the VITD done in Chem test for deficiency) – in fact this test will likely be normal even in cases of severe Vitamin D deficiency. A comment is being added to make sure this test is correctly ordered.
11. Source code on AFBs – we had a number of AFB test not resulting because the specimen source had not been entered. I will have a tracking list selection profile made that we will run daily to catch missing Sources.
12. Procedure manual updates –Vicky is working on updates to the Send out procedure manual.
13. Kathy Section:
    1. Tyr to attend one of the Meeting the Challenge presentations.
    2. We are looking at opening a draw site in Columbia.
    3. John Vosler retiring June 15th. Evenings will help cover nights (and days cover evenings). We are hoping to get approval to hire a Part time person to that will work nights and evenings.