

Core Lab Department Meeting

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Attending: Carolyn Wade, Julia Sauls, Patty Isbill, Vicky Douglas, Denise Manning, Anita Konieczny, Paula Swierczek, Nancy Buckley, Evan Evans.

1. XP - new tests/reminder
  - a. Syphilis – Go-live on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. QC 1/day, run when received. Any positive will reflex to an RPR w/titer that will be sent to ARUP.
  - b. Watch for what QC has been run! Had 2 incidences last week where a specimen was put on (a Gent and a C-peptide) that had not had QC run and were resultated. I suggest you make a tracker that lists, from order, that lists only the tests that have not been QC'd for the day, so if something pops up on it, you'll know right away that you have an order for a test that needs QC. You can use one of the existing selection profiles (XP) and delete the QC'd tests.
  - c. Coming soon – We will be resultating the numerical value from the Hepatitis B surface AB, which makes it a quantitative test. Also once AFP runs out on the Cobas, we will run it on the Centaur.
2. TDMs – We have some changes to the vancomycin procedure – the critical values are changing on troughs and we should not get requests for vancomycin peaks on in-patients unless it is a neonate (< 3 months old). An e-mail will be sent when these changes take effect.
3. Send outs
  - a. Working on a Pathology ARUP requisition to make it easier for us to make sure we are ordering the correct test from ARUP on tissue blocks. I am also going to train the pathology staff (Linda, Shelly, etc.) how to look up results in ARUP Connect.
  - b. Pap Smears - it was decided that we will tell Lab Processing that when receiving pap smears that they should only give the send out desk the copies of the requisition and the received label strip paper clipped together, the pap smear vial in the bag. All other paper work received with the requisition (armband, labels, insurance info) can be discarded (shredded). At some point in the near future Women's Care app smear results will be directly ordered by the office and we will not receive the paper copy of the requisition.
  - c. Reminder – When the 0500 person leaves at 1330 it is the responsibility of the send out tech to cover that person's bench (unless the 0500 person is the send out tech). I know some people prefer a later lunch, but please keep aware of the department staffing and lunch accordingly. We see an uptick of testing from about 1230 on (O'Fallon, Columbia and Smithton specimens as well as the ED) and it can make it difficult for the department if people lunch at 1300 (or later) while another tech leaves at 1330.
4. STA – waiting on a ship date and training dates from Stago.
  - a. When QC lot #'s change make sure I get a copy to update in MCare and DI (Bio-Rad unity)! Also – we did make a change with our last lot of Coag Normal and Abnormal controls (for PT, PTT and Fibrinogen) – we adjusted the QC range for what values we are running, so they are different from the values listed on the package insert.IRIS – contract on Kathy's desk to move forward.  
We will be seeing new centrifuges, PFA, etc. in use soon – our current units will be sent out to Memorial East.
5. PCT – Pass on to the next shift if less the last tray is open and the next box is a new lot/shipment. We cannot enter the next lot in advance, but it might give the next shift the opportunity to make up the new

QC in advance instead of when there is a patient to be run. Each test strip costs \$25, so I don't want to waste them.

6. Competencies – sheets are available. DCue August 15, 2016. All proficiencies done since October 15<sup>th</sup> count for next year. Semen – MTS quiz is one of the semi-annual, the other will be a proficiency specimen and will be posted later (once we have results). Problem solving/troubleshooting – will be available in January.

7. Weekend float tech responsibilities.

All techs are aware of what is needed each day, checklist-wise, and should do what they can to make sure that all the department's daily checklists are filled regardless of your actual bench assignment – do not become focused on your bench assignment that you ignore the needs of the department.

On Saturdays – the float tech should focus on:

- a. Centaur and STA QC and instrument maintenance – so tests can be run.
- b. Test workload (diffs, AVL, etc).
- c. Cover breaks/lunch.

On Sundays the Float is the Lab Processing person and that will probably take up most of their time, especially in the morning, so the daily start-up items for STA and Centaur and has to be done by the other benches in that area, as well as their associated checklists.

I will ask the POC people (Tess, Glenda and Linda) if they would, if their workload allows) take care of POC if they are here. My concern is that if they do that, and if they also do it during the week if we run into a situation where they are not here it might be more difficult for the Chem staff to do the daily POC.

7. Flu shots – due by November 30<sup>th</sup>.
8. Health insurance screening extra date – November 13<sup>th</sup>. Must enroll on-line (IAS) by November 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Reminder that in December along with your pay raise and back pay, no insurance will be taken out of any paycheck.
9. No smoking – Entire hospital non-smoking in April 2016 – no more smoke hut, patients will not be allowed to smoke outside. Clothing must not smell of smoke.
10. BJC – contracts will be signed soon. Healthcare and other benefits will switch to BJC in 2017. LIS switch to Cerner Millennium in 2017.