

TRAINING UPDATE

Lab Location: GEC, SGAH & WAH
Department: Core, QA & Mgmt

Date Distributed: 3/3/2015
Due Date: 3/31/2015
Implementation: 4/1/2015

DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURE REVISION

Name of procedure:	
Delta Check	GEC / SGAH / WAH.QA25 v3
Description of change(s):	
Section 9: Remove CL, CREAT, FIBR, LI, GENP, GENT, PHENB, PTA, PTT, THEO, TOBP, TOBT, VANT, VANP. Revise INR to 60%	
These changes have already been made in the LIS	
This revised SOP will be implemented on April 1, 2015	

Document your compliance with this training update by taking the quiz in the MTS system.

Approved draft for training (version 3)

Non-Technical SOP

Title	Delta Check	
Prepared by	Leslie Barrett	Date: 8/20/2009
Owner	Cynthia Bowman-Gholston , Robert SanLuis	Date: 2/20/2015

Laboratory Approval		
Print Name and Title	Signature	Date
<i>Refer to the electronic signature page for approval and approval dates.</i>		
Local Issue Date:		Local Effective Date:

Review:		
Print Name	Signature	Date

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1. PURPOSE

Delta checking is employed by the laboratory to check for unexpected changes in patient test results that may indicate a significant change in the patient's clinical status. Delta checking also serves as a quality assurance tool to check for analytical errors, and to ensure that the specimen tested, and results obtained, are consistent with patient clinical condition.

2. SCOPE

Delta check parameters are set up in the test files in the Laboratory Information System (LIS). During delta checking, the LIS compares the current result to the previous result. If the difference in results exceeds predetermined limits (%D and absolute D), the LIS alerts the technologist to the delta check failure.

3. RESPONSIBILITY

The Laboratory Medical Director approves the delta check parameters.

Technologists verify the validity of any result that fails delta checking. This validity check is documented as a comment in the LIS.

The Supervisor or designee prints a failed delta check report each working day and checks that delta failures are investigated and documented by the technologist. The reviewer checks the report for trends such as an unusual number of delta failures for an analyte that may not be seen by a single technologist and takes appropriate corrective action as needed. Delta check reports are retained for two years.

4. DEFINITIONS

Delta check - a comparison of consecutive values for a given test in a patient's laboratory file used to detect abrupt changes, usually generated as a part of a computer-based quality control program.

LIS - Laboratory Information System

5. PROCEDURE

- A. Delta checking is automatically performed by the LIS on all qualifying results before verification.
- B. The "fail delta" flag will alert the technologist.
- C. The technologist will take appropriate action to resolve the delta check before releasing the result. Items to consider:
 - 1. An unexpected number of delta failures for the same analyte may indicate an assay problem. The analyst will troubleshoot the instrument for problems including running additional quality control samples as needed to ensure expected assay performance.
 - 2. Specimen quality will be checked. Hemolysis is a reasonable explanation for an elevated potassium result that fails delta checking. Check the assay SOP or instrument operations manual for assays that are affected by specimen quality. **Note:** an improperly handled specimen may also fall into this group.
 - 3. Patient information will be checked for an explanation. Patient treatment or change in status can affect results. Where possible check laboratory patient status reports or patient history for information on transfusions or anticoagulant therapy. Contact the patient's nurse or physician to gather more clinical history.
 - 4. If there is no known reason for the change in the result, suggest to the nurse or physician that the patient be redrawn to verify the result. Hold the result in the LIS until redraw is tested and result is confirmed.
 - 5. If the nurse or physician does not want the patient redrawn, accept the results and document this information via free text in the LIS.
- D. If it is determined that the specimen has been misidentified (misdrawn or mislabeled), the results may not be released. Notify the patient's nurse or physician and complete a Quality Variance form.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Delta Value - LIS Investigation, LIS procedure
Failed Delta Value Report, LIS procedure

7. **REFERENCES**
 Stedman's Medical Dictionary, 26th edition, 1995.

8. **REVISION HISTORY**

Version	Date	Reason for Revision	Revised By	Approved By
		Supersedes SOP L014.002		
000	11/17/10	Section 9: Update addenda	L Barrett	C Bowman
001	2/4/13	Section 5: Revise PI form to Quality Variance Section 9: Remove TBIL, DBIL, CBIL, PHOS, revise SOD and CL	L Barrett	C Bowman
002	2/20/15	Update owner Section 9: Remove CL, CREAT, FIBR, LI, GENP, GENT, PHENB, PTA, PTT, THEO, TOBP, TOBT, VANT, VANP. Revise INR to 60% Footer: version # leading zero's dropped due to new EDCS in use as of 10/7/13	L Barrett	R SanLuis

9. **ADDENDA AND APPENDICES**
 LIS Delta Values

LIS DELTA VALUES

Test code	Test Name	Time Search	Delta %	Absolute
CA	Calcium	24hr	25	
CKMB	CKMB	12hr	100	
DIG	Digoxin	24hr	40	
GLUC	Glucose	24hr	100	
HGB	HGB	24hr		3
INR	INR	24hr	50 60	
MG	Magnesium	24hr	50	
MCV	MCV	24hr		3
SOD	Sodium	24hr		8
PLTC	Platelets	24hr	80	
K	Potassium	24hr	45	
RBC	RBC	24hr	35	
OSMO	Serum Osmo	24hr	50	
TROPI	Troponin I	12 hr	150	
CL	Chloride	24hr		8
CREAT	Creatinine	24hr	80	
FIBR	Fibrinogen	24hr	50	
GENP	Gentamycin Peak	24hr	50	
GENT	Gentamycin Trough	24hr	50	
LI	Lithium	24hr		4
PHENB	Phenobarbital	24hr	50	
PTA	Prothrombin Time	24hr	50	
PTT	PTT	24hr	50	
THEO	Theophylline	24hr		5
TOBP	Tobramycin Peak	24hr	50	
TOBT	Tobramycin Trough	24hr	50	
VANP	Vancomycin Peak	24hr	50	
VANT	Vancomycin Trough	24hr	50	