

## TRAINING UPDATE

**Lab Location:** GEC, SGMC & WAH  
**Department:** All Staff

**Date Distributed:** 3/30/2015  
**Due Date:** 4/30/2015  
**Implementation:** 4/1/2015

### DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURE

<b>Name of procedure:</b>
<b>Quality Variance Forms GEC /SGAH/ WAH.QA22 v3</b> <b>Quality Variance Form, Laboratory AG.F14.2</b> <b>Laboratory Quality Variance Tool AG.F322.0</b>
<b>Description of change(s):</b>
<p><b>Lab QV form:</b> Update RQI criteria on page 2 to match new RQI SOP Move Supervisor action documentation to page 2 Update severity levels Add CPOE issue (under Ordering) and Quality Concern section Forms will be <b>color coded</b> by site: <b>SG/GEC = pink</b>; <b>WAH = purple</b></p> <p><b>SOP:</b> Section 4: remove reference to Nursing Manual Section 5: update severity classifications, insert specific job function for recording on QV form, add requirement to collect tech initials and date upon receipt of QV notification or document phone discussion Section 6: add tool, update RQI SOP title</p> <p><b>QV Tool:</b> This is a new 'form' to show the usual flow of QV forms</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The BB QV form is also revised but a separate update has already been issued to BB staff. Those will also be color coded: SG BB = <b>blue</b>; WAH BB = <b>yellow</b></p> <p><b>The SOP and Forms will be implemented on April 1, 2015</b></p>

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

Occurrence Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Patient name (affix label if available): \_\_\_\_\_ MR# \_\_\_\_\_  
(L Name) (F Name)

Accession #: \_\_\_\_\_ Test Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient location: \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Description of Variance: (Check the appropriate box below and attach available ANIQ documentation)****Ordering**

- CPOE issue
- Incorrect test ordered by lab
- Incorrect test ordered by nursing
- Ordered on wrong visit/FIN by nursing
- Ordered on wrong visit/FIN by lab
- Other (explain on reverse)
- Test ordered on wrong patient by lab
- Test ordered on wrong patient by nursing
- Test ordered with wrong priority code
- Test was on requisition but not ordered by lab

**Maintenance/Temperature/QC**

- Lot to Lot crosscheck not performed
- QC failure, no look back
- QC not documented
- Temp/Humidity out of range, action not documented
- Temp/ Humidity not recorded
- Centrifuge maintenance not performed
- Maintenance not reviewed or documented
- Control lot # not in system

**Before Testing and Specimen**

- Clotted
- Delivery problem with pneum tube
- FES not performed
- Handled Improperly
- Hemolyzed
- Inappropriate container/specimen
- Incomplete info on requisition
- Incorrect patient drawn by Lab = RQI
- Incorrect patient drawn by Nursing
- Incorrect specimen for requested test
- Leaked or spilled specimen
- Lost specimen = RQI if Irreplaceable
- Mislabeled (Lab) = RQI
- Mislabeled (Nursing)
- No order received
- Information on requisition and specimen don't match
- QNS
- Specimen not received in LIS
- TAT delay in receipt or collection
- Unlabeled = RQI if collected by Lab
- Urine C&S not plated; not performed 1st
- Urine >2 hours; Run at physician request

**During Testing**

- Delta failure not investigated
- Dilution error
- Failure to follow SOP
- Instrument error: \_\_\_\_\_
- Interpretation error
- Other (explain on reverse)
- Results suggest contamination
- Wrong patient tested
- Wrong sample tested

**Resulting/Reporting**

- Clerical error
- Critical value not called
- Key stroke error
- Other (explain on reverse)
- Results entered on wrong patient - lab
- Results entered on wrong patient - nursing
- TAT complaint (after receipt)
- TAT Reference Lab Results to LIS

**Quality Concerns**

- Tech Quality Concern
- Manufacture Recall
- Customer Complaint

Comments: (use space back on back of form)

**Assessment and Actions taken: check the appropriate box below and/or describe actions taken****If this is an RQI** (See reverse), reported to: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ RQI # \_\_\_\_\_

- Corrected report issued (**Attach a hard copy of the corrected report**)
- Specimen rejected, test canceled and called Redrawn?  Y  N  Unknown
- Test credited  Other (explain on reverse)

Reported by (Your Tech Code) \_\_\_\_\_ Notified: (Group Lead/TIC) tech code/initials \_\_\_\_\_ (date/time) \_\_\_\_\_

(Notified must record their Tech Code to this form AND initials)**B. Supervisor Action and Recommendation: (document all follow-up actions taken on reverse) (Tracking)** Tech code: \_\_\_\_\_  
No lab involvement (√) \_\_\_\_\_**C. Level of severity**

- No patient impact
- Minor impact
- Major impact

**D. Follow-Up:** Hospital Incident Report # \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**E. Signatures (Sign/Initial and date)**

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Medical Director: \_\_\_\_\_

QA Specialist: \_\_\_\_\_ Operations Director: \_\_\_\_\_



**Approved draft for training (version 3)**

Non-Technical SOP

<b>Title</b>	<b>Quality Variance Forms</b>	
<b>Prepared by</b>	Leslie Barrett	Date: 7/21/2009
<b>Owner</b>	Cynthia Bowman-Gholston	Date: 7/21/2009

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

<b>Review:</b>		
<b>Print Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

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### **1. PURPOSE**

To provide procedural guidelines for documentation of laboratory issues/incidents that may affect the quality of patient care. The Quality Variance (QV) form provides a framework for staff reporting, supervisory evaluation and corrective action, and QA tracking and trending of laboratory issues.

### **2. SCOPE**

This procedure applies to all laboratory personnel

### **3. RESPONSIBILITY**

All laboratory staff participates in reporting, recording, and investigating incidents or events as appropriate.  
The Senior QA Specialist or designee is responsible for content and review of this procedure.

### **4. DEFINITIONS**

These variances/occurrences must be reported as Quality Variances:

1. Any incident that generates inaccurate or delayed beyond accepted standards test results.
2. Any incident in which the collection of specimens or recollection of unreceived or received specimens is outside accepted standards as defined in the Laboratory policy and section-specific procedure manuals.
3. Any patient identification errors, including specimen labeling and Blood Bank or Hospital armband errors.

4. Any delayed or non-notified critical values.
5. Any incident, which requires reporting to hospital Quality Assurance/Risk Management, defined as: “Any occurrence, accident or event that is not consistent with normal patient care or the routine safe operation of the hospital”.
6. Any service complaint registered by any staff member from a customer (patient, physician, pathologist, nurse, technician, etc.).
7. Any staff/employee concerns or complaints that reflect concern about quality of patient testing and safety.
8. Any Blood Bank variance that qualifies as an FDA reportable event. Refer to specific procedures in the Blood Bank Quality Plan.
9. Any other incidents designated by the Laboratory Performance Improvement Committee (LPIC).

## 5. PROCEDURE

1. The person responsible for the error or any person aware of the incident will generate a Quality Variance Form.
2. There are two versions of Quality Variance form. (See Related Documents)
  - One is used to document issues relating to all areas of the Laboratory.
  - The other is specific to Blood Bank events and occurrences.
3. Documentation should be legible (preferably printed), contain only factual information and objective comments, and be complete. Do not include opinions or personal judgments in the report. Written entries may be continued on the back of the form.
4. The following information is required:
  - a. Site
  - b. Occurrence information:
    - occurrence date
    - patient name and medical record number, when the incident involves a patient
    - location
    - accession number
    - test, QC or maintenance documentation
    - select the appropriate variance description from the list, providing additional information in comment space or on reverse side as needed
    - assess the incident to determine if it qualifies as an Reportable Quality Issue (RQI), refer to reverse side of form – **if yes, complete the notification section**
    - indicate corrective action taken, i.e. corrected report, notified caregiver, etc.
    - tech code of person reporting and notification information

- Physician name is required, only if the issue involves a physician complaint or dispute.

#### 5. Supervisory Documentation:

- a. Quality variance forms must include Supervisor Action and Recommendation as appropriate. The Supervisor or designee, QA Specialist, Administrative Laboratory Director or Medical Director may complete this section.
  - b. Any corrective action(s) to be taken must be followed-up and documented by QA Specialist as follows:
    - Log the events into the event database
    - Attach a copy of the follow-up action to the original Quality Variance form if action was documented. Documentation examples are memos, meeting minutes, etc.
    - If future follow-up will occur, enter the internal follow-up date and free text comment into the database.
    - Attach written documentation (if applicable) of the action taken and completion date to the Quality Variance form.
    - When available, attach a copy of the LIS documentation report from LIS function ANIQ by accession number.
6. The Supervisor, Group Lead, or tech-in-charge will notify the pathologist or on-call pathologist for the following events (24 hours/day, 7 days/week):
    - any event as specified in the hospital policy Significant Event Reporting and Analyzing
    - any other event causing severe harm or death to a patient
    - any immediate hemolytic transfusion reaction, or mistake resulting in a near-miss incident in the Blood Bank
    - any event with significant impact on patient care such that pathologist intervention or follow up with physician is required immediately
    - any severe dispute with a physician
  7. Perform an overall assessment to summarize and review errors/incident reports (performed and reported at the quarterly LPIC meetings). This review is utilized to identify trends and initiate corrective and/or preventive actions.
  8. The section Supervisor, Administrative Director, Medical Director or designee may review Quality Variance forms.
  9. All variances will be categorized to indicate severity as follows:

No patient impact

Minor impact = Redraw / recollection of specimen, treatment delay, rework, patient inconvenience

Major impact = Therapy required, increased LOS, change in participation in study, potential for serious injury, or more significant outcome

10. Blood Bank Quality Variances that reflect patient-significant variances are sent directly to the Medical Director or designee by the section supervisor. This fast track mechanism ensures timely intervention in areas in which either specimens are irreplaceable, or the incident occurs in an especially high risk section, or both. The pathologist will document any intervention taken. The form is then forwarded to the appropriate reviewers.
11. If follow-up outside the laboratory is required, the event is reported electronically on the Adventist Hospital Intranet.
  - a. Document occurrence date, time and location.
  - b. Document event type.
  - c. Document patient and/or employee involved or affected.
  - d. Provide a brief, concise summary of the problem.
  - e. Once submitted, the event is reviewed by Risk Management and referred to the appropriate manager/supervisor for follow-up.
  - f. Document the follow-up information, including the tracking number, on the Quality Variance form.
12. When appropriate, Quality Variance forms are discussed with the employee involved to prevent recurrence of the incident/accident. If a laboratory employee error is involved, the section supervisor will document notification of the employee involved on the Quality Variance form, and [the employee will date and initial the form to acknowledge receipt of the notification. If employee notification occurs via telephone, the supervisor will document the date and time of the discussion.](#)
13. Completed, signed Quality Variance forms, with corrective measures, notifications and follow-ups attached, are kept in a site-specific area for a period of two (2) years. Blood Bank Quality Variance forms are retained for five (5) years. These files will be under the guidance of QA/Risk Management.

## 6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Quality Management (QM) Plan, QA procedure  
PI (Performance Improvement) Database, QA procedure  
Hospital Notification Process for Reportable Quality Issues, QA procedure  
Quality Variance Form, Laboratory (AG.F14)  
Quality Variance Form, Blood Bank (AG.F15)  
[Laboratory Quality Variance Tool \(AG.F322\)](#)

## 7. REFERENCES

N/A



**8. REVISION HISTORY**

Version	Date	Reason for Revision	Revised By	Approved By
		Supersedes SOP QA202.01		
000	4/18/2012	Sections 1,4,5,9: Update PI variance to Quality Variance form Section 5: Item 4.b updated to match form Section 6: update titles, add RQI SOP Section 9: revised forms attached	L Barrett C Bowman-Gholston	C Bowman-Gholston
001	5/28/2014	Section 3: change QA supervisor to Senior QA Specialist or designee Section 5: change LPIC reporting to quarterly; specify who must notify pathologist Section 6: add forms Section 9: revise addenda A to match current practice; move forms to section 6 Footer: version # leading zero's dropped due to new EDCS in use as of 10/7/13.	C. Bowman-Gholston	C. Bowman-Gholston
2	3/16/2015	Section 4: remove reference to Nursing Manual Section 5: update severity classifications, insert specific job function for recording on QV form, add requirement to collect tech initials and date upon receipt of QV notification or document phone discussion Section 6: add tool, update RQI SOP title Section 9: remove flowchart	C. Bowman-Gholston	C. Bowman-Gholston

**9. ADDENDA AND APPENDICES**

None

# Laboratory Quality Variance Tool

