**Weekly Updates**

**October 11, 2012**

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| Test | Description of Change(s) | Affected Individuals |
| NorthPoint Survey | NorthPoint is conducting a survey. Please check your e-mail for the link and details. This is your opportunity to give feedback, so please take advantage of it. | All Staff |
| RSV | Flu season will soon be upon us as the weather turns colder. This means soon we will start RSV and flu testing. I have updated the RSV procedure to reflect the changes from using the new mini-tip flocked swab in viral transport media. Here’s a summary of the changes:   1. When a specimen arrives as a mini-tip flocked swab in the viral transport media vial, you can use that liquid to perform the test. This means you **do not** perform the elution step of the procedure. 2. If the RSV antigen is negative, you will order a back-up viral culture in Cerner. The new mini-tip flocked swabs in the transport media vial are ready for transport to HCMC – deliver to sendouts. 3. We can still perform testing on the “old” NP style swabs we used in past years. When these swabs (the provider must collect 2 of this style of swab) are delivered to the lab, you will need to ELUTE the specimen following the procedure. 4. If an old style NP swab is delivered and the RSV antigen is negative, you will still order a back-up viral culture. Use the second swab and put in a viral transport media vial and deliver to sendouts for transport.   One final reminder, this test is **ONLY** to be performed on children under 6 years of age.  See link to procedure below. | All Staff |
| Scope Multiplication Factor | The scope multiplication factor has been determined with our new scope. Thanks for everyone for helping to do this tedious work!!  For WBC the conversion factor is 3.33 and for platelets it is 19,000. Below is a link to the updated Peripheral Blood Smear directions. They are also posted by the scope. | Bench techs |
| Clinitek | Clinitek sent us a new “hold down plate.” It was installed on 10/11/12. Please let Sherry or Denelle know if you encounter any problems with this new plate or an increase in patient results that don’t make sense. | Bench Techs |
| ST&T | *Thanks to all staff for your help and flexibility during See Test & Treat.*  The event was very successful. We had a rocky day on Tuesday but things seemed to smooth out and flow better on both Wednesday and Thursday. We would love any feedback that you have to improve this event. Let Sherry and Denelle know your ideas! | All Staff |

**Procedure Additions, Updates and Changes:**

* **[RSV Procedure](\\\\yonkers\\pchcteam\\Lab\\Procedure Manual\\RSV.docx)**
* [**Peripheral Blood Smear Directions**](file:///\\yonkers\pchcteam\Lab\Procedures,%20Current\Patient%20Testing\Heme%20Bench%20Testing\Hematology%20Procedures\Peripheral%20Blood%20Smear.doc)