**Weekly Updates**

**May 23, 2013**

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| Test | Description of Change(s) | Affected Individuals |
| Courier Time Change | Starting Tuesday May 28 – The midday courier pickup will be at 12:45. Please have the bag ready appropriately. | All Staff |
| AC Vents | It was recently discovered that the AC vents were CLOSED. Do not **CLOSE** the vents as this may cause the motor to burn out ☹ | All Staff |
| Urine Tests requiring Preservative | FYI: After some research, the only 24 hour test that requires a preservative is:   * Catecholamines | All Staff |
| Heme Sink | Please be careful when washing your hands at the heme sink to keep the water in the sink. Slides that were drying were nearly ruined from water that was splashed on the counter next to the sink. Splashed water may also be harmful to the instrument itself. Thanks for your consideration. | All Staff |
| INR Instrument Cleaning & Disinfecting | See changes below (text lifted from the revised procedure).  These changes are a mandate from the manufacturer. Wipes are stored in the back left heme cupboard.  After each patient use remove a Clorox Dispatch Hospital Cleaner Disinfectant Towel with Bleach towel and allow any excess liquid from the towel to drip over a sink or container so the towel is damp but not dripping.  Wipe the outside of the monitor with the towel taking special care not to allow liquid to enter the monitor around the buttons and around Test Strip Guide.  It is important to gently wipe the top and side of the buttons.  Wipe the entire Test Strip Guide just enough until wet.  Avoid pressing down too hard.  Allow the monitor to sit moistened for 1 minute to allow the disinfectant to work fully.  If the monitor plastic becomes lightly cloudy, wipe with a water-dampened cloth.  Wipe the monitor dry with a lint free tissue taking special care to ensure the entry area to the strip guide is dry including near seams/edges.  If the following should occur stop using the device and contact Alere Technical Services at 1-877-866-5313:  Error messages appear when a test has not been performed Strop code changes without prompting Alere INRatio2 Monitor does not turn on Any other unusual errors not specified in the user guide |  |
| Newborn Bilirubin Correlation | We have a new bili machine – called ‘Fred’ that we will do correlations for Baby bilis on.  **Phlebs**- draw 2+ pediatric green tubes for adequate volume to run on the three instruments.  **Sendouts** – spin and deliver all sample to chemistry  When specimen returned, send to HCMC for correlation study  **Techs:**   1. Run on Wally and report. 2. Run on Fred. 3. Record all results on chart. 4. Return all sample for sendouts to send an aliquot light protected with Correlation study paperwork to HCMC for testing. | All Staff |
| Fred – the nitty gritty | Chem bench tech should run QC, both levels, once per day. Record on chart in the QC section. See Leah, Denelle or Sherry for assistance. | Bench Techs |
| Trial of ESR Auto Plus | We are trying a new sed rate analyzer. We have vacuum tubes that can be used during phlebotomy, or the same tubes can be manually filled with EDTA blood. The label can go on the upper section of the tube or on the plastic hanger. The tubes should be mixed on the mixer for 3-5 minutes. Directions for use are from the sales rep, or the user manual may be used. These are sitting on the counter near the instrument.  Try it out and see how it feels. | Bench Techs |
| HCMC Lab Guide Link | Please attach this link to your computers – it is a much better link to the lab guide. It has a **search** function.  <http://infooncall/Departments/Laboratories/LaboratoryHandbook/index.htm> | All Staff |

**Procedure Additions, Updates and Changes:**