**Weekly Updates**

**September 20, 2012**

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| Test | Description of Change(s) | Affected Individuals |
| Minimize Screens or use Privacy shield | Please minimize screens or use the privacy shield at the front desk. (New privacy shields are being requisitioned). | All Staff |
| Blood Screens on MIALUS | Please attach the clinitek result next to the Afinion result when you have screened for blood in the urine on the test log. See Denelle if you have questions. | All Staff |
| New Coded Comment | **NPHIUC – Instrument Unable to calculate ratio** Use when **both** results are:* mALB result is <5.0

 and * Creat result is <16.4
 | All Staff/ T1 bench staff |
| Closing Changes | * Clean tray and replace liner in both pass-through windows. Leave tray sitting out on the counter. This allows the janitors to clean the pass-through inside and out each night.
* Turn off all Afinions.
 | All Staff |
| Using Diff-pettes for A1C’s | Please use the para-film as **single** use. Meaning **→** snip off a small piece of para-film for that individual specimen and then discard when testing is complete. This will reduce any chance of sampling the wrong specimen on the para-film. | All Staff/ T2 Bench |
| Changes in Sendouts | * New coolers
* **No ice packs** as requested by HCMC.
* The cooler will moderate the outside temps.
* The transport is for less than an hour in a heated/cooled vehicle.
* Send specimens that require it in the frozen or chilled cubes.

\*Frozen specimens in the blocks from the freezer.\*Specimens on ice in the blocks from the refrig.* We will now match the transport protocol that other HCMC clinics follow.
* New blue foam inserts
* Please use inserts as before, but prior to sending put each foam insert in its own specimen bio bag.
* Culturettes & room temperature micro specimens can just go in a bag, no longer necessary to be in a foam cube.
* **All specimens go in the cooler** and are secondarily bagged, as required by the DOT (including pap smears).
 | All Staff |
| Viral transport media changes | The M4 media we have used in the past has expired. We are switching to mini-tip flocked swabs in viral media. More details to follow. | All Staff |
| ACE Alera – Malfunction & Valuable Lesson | So the ACE Alera is now working. The reference electrode was “bad,” and has been replaced. * Acceptable QC may be obtained even when the instrument is malfunctioning.

Our changes:* Weekly comparison with HCMC of one heme and one chem specimen. – details to come.
* Watching and responding to patient trends.

i.e. Low anion gaps indicated a problem with the electrodes… |  |
| ACE Alera Patient Follow-ups | If a provider requests us to follow up on any patient testing from the recent instrument malfunction – notify Sherry and Denelle for ordering, crediting of charges and follow-through. **\*\***The providers were notified in an e-mail to use the EPIC NP Lab Pool if they needed patient follow up. | All Staff |
| Influenza testing | We will be switching to the Sofia instrument for influenza A & B rapid antigen testing. We anticipate Rapid antigen testing to begin sometime in October. In the meantime, if a provider orders an Influenza antigen test cancel the order. Instead order a respiratory viral screen **and** a viral culture. Send to HCMC for testing. | All Staff |

**Procedure Additions, Updates and Changes:**

* **None**