# UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTERS

# DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORY MEDICINE

## *Virology*

**Title:** Clinical Technologist II

**Responsible to:** Senior/Lead Clinical Technologist/ Clinical Lab Supervisor/Research Scientist Senior/Principal/Laboratory Director

**Position Overview:** Perform clinical laboratory tests in the Virology Division. With minimum supervision, technologist will perform established clinical testing with accuracy and reproducibility for patient care and clinical studies. She/he will be proficient in all established tests, required Quality Control procedures, preventive maintenance, and result reporting. Technologist will take direct responsibility for at least one administrative function within the laboratory.

**General Duties:**

* Understand the purpose of and perform all scheduled testing as assigned according to established procedures and study protocols.
* Interpret test results critically.
* Follow protocol specifications unless otherwise instructed by Director, CT Lead, Clinical Laboratory Supervisor or Research Scientist.
* Perform all quality control procedures correctly and make appropriate decisions based on QC results. Understand QC requirements and apply this knowledge to validate test results.
* Enter results and data into computer and perform appropriate cross checks to minimize clerical errors.
* Prepare and process samples for transport and/or testing.
* Perform sterilizing procedures as directed.
* Receive and unpack or prepare and ship biohazard/infectious materials in accordance with DOT and IATA regulations. Respond to any shipment problem report in a timely fashion. Inform supervisory personnel and document response.
* Inventory samples.
* Perform all preventive maintenance procedures and clean work area upon completion of tasks.
* Prepare reagents and quality control materials as needed and follow all established procedures for documentation and validation of materials.
* Demonstrate techniques and share practical knowledge with new employees, post-doctoral fellows, residents, medical students and medical technology students.
* Assist in development or evaluation of new procedures and instruments.
* Exercise independent decision-making and take direct responsibility for one or more tests in the lab and ensure that appropriate reagents and controls are always present. Serve as the technical expert and educational resource to other technologists and others who are training as to available methods and clinical relevance for those tests.
* Exercise independent decision-making and take direct responsibility for one of the following administrative tasks – the quality control program, proficiency testing, preventive maintenance procedures, new test development and validation, education and training, or inventory/purchasing.
* Perform Other Duties As Required.

## Communication and Teambuilding

* Support service and UWMC goals, service efficiency, and effectiveness through such activities as: participating in problem solving, demonstrating support for policies, sharing expertise, and contributing to project work and committees.
* Promote and contribute to the development of teamwork in the service and working relationships between the laboratory and other departments.
* Form productive working relationships with co-workers. Communicate clearly, directly and in a timely basis.
* Act as a leader in promoting communication and efficiency within the laboratory.
* Help to establish laboratory goals and provide leadership in accomplishing those goals.
* Act as role model/mentor to all staff.
* Be open to receiving feedback and make constructive changes as a result;
* Be open to receiving direction and request clarification of duties and expectations as appropriate.
* Demonstrate a courteous, respectful, and professional attitude and behavior at all times.
* Always represent the Department in a professional manner.

## Safety/Response to Emergencies

* Participate in interdepartmental efforts to facilitate a safe environment for all staff and patients.
* Keep abreast of safety procedures including fire plan, disaster drills, evacuation routes, etc.
* Communicate any observed problems or safety issues to supervisory personnel.
* Follows safety/biohazards procedures and practices "Universal Precautions" at all times.
* Know location of safety information and supplies, and be able to access in response to queries or emergency situations.

# Quality Assessment and Improvement

* Actively identify areas of improvement and help to implement positive changes.
* Coordinate quality assessment and improvement activities for assigned tests or tasks.
* Be receptive to new ideas and procedures.
* Adapt to new routines and schedules as necessary.

# Age Specific Competencies

* Maintain knowledge of age and gender specific developmental stage differences and requirements to meet the needs of patients and their families;
* Maintain knowledge of age and gender specific differences as they relate to minimum specimen volumes and test result reference ranges. ***(For technical staff)***

# Competency Measured by:

* Pre-employment Qualifications, Education, and Experience;
* Successful completion of required orientation, training, review of policies and procedures; demonstration of continual competency.
* Supervisor’s observation of demonstrated continual competency by completion of the job-related competency program (knowledge and skills) including educational, technical, and proficiency aspects

**Working Conditions**

* May work weekends and holidays.
* May be asked to work hours beyond normal open hours of the laboratory depending on staffing needs and current testing requirements. May be required to work a different shift to meet seasonal or epidemic infection(s).
* Must be able to communicate clinical information in English to clinicians, nursing, support staff and patients both verbally and in writing.
* This position may be stressful at times in that there is a constant need for timely patient results.
* Visual verification of small print (as small as font size 9) between two to three references (labels, list, and requisitions) is required on a continual basis.
* Will work with biohazards, including blood and other body fluids
* Potential for exposure to bloodborne pathogens through needlestick or biohazard spill.
* May be required to stand for periods of at least 2 hours at a time
* Repetitive hand motions present, e.g. working in hoods required, working with pipette devices frequent, reading on a microscope for several hours at a time are routine parts of job requirements.

**Minimum Qualifications**

#### A Bachelor's Degree in Medical Technology with a curriculum accredited by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association AND certification or eligibility to take examinations, with successful completion within one year from date of hire with the American Society of Clinical Pathologists or equivalent, or certification in the specialized field appropriate to the laboratory division AND two years of experience as a Clinical Technologist I or equivalent. An equivalent degree in a field such as chemistry or microbiology may substitute for the Bachelor's Degree in Medical Technology.

*All employees working in Laboratory Medicine should understand that it may be necessary to work in other departmental locations in order to meet patient service requirements, i.e. UWMC, HMC, SCH, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Roosevelt, etc.*