MCBH Lab meeting September 2024

* Staffing-
* Thank you to all that have helped to fill shift vacancies recently. Many of you have stepped up and offered to help out and it is truly appreciated. Special thanks to Mark who has offered to fill 3rd shift holes in addition to his call. We have had some unexpected openings and have been adjusting the schedule to maintain minimum staffing requirements. For the foreseeable future, we will continue to use the call person to cover 3rd shift holes when there are no other options.
* Ronelle is finishing her Blood Bank training at BH hopefully this week (thanks to Dorothy for covering her eves so she can be at BH). Zoraida is next to train for BB.
* Please watch “incremental overtime”-15 minutes here and there are under scrutiny. Please don’t punch in early and leave late unless it is approved.
* Go-lives:
* Vancomycin critical and reference ranges being standardized-go live 9/24. Sign off on procedure.
* Creatinine delta critical values supposed to go live 9/24 but some DN’s were not done testing so this is TBD. There is a training sheet for this as this is a very different process than previous critical values. Sign off on procedure.
* Ethanol critical of >400 mg/dL go live 10/2 2024. Sign off on procedure.
* Gentamicin testing to be discontinued 10/2/2024 (low volume).
* Lipase CRR extended (dilutions X 10) go live 10/2/2024. There is a training checklist to be completed and please sign off on procedure.
* Coag lot roll over done on 9/24/2024. Heparin therapeutic range has been lowered with this lot. Reference ranges have also been revised. Please sign off on procedure asap.
* Wound Center samples and other irreplaceable samples:
  + If there are any concerns when receiving wound center samples, call the wound center directly for clarification. If it is after hours call the charge nurse Janice Mezick at 203-605-1440. Any samples that cannot be clarified are to be put into the problem specimen bin on the bottom shelf on accucold 5.
  + Samples and orders from the OR must be handled with extreme care and any questions concerning stat orders etc. should be brought Laura or Virginia so samples can be processed timely. There was a recent incident where a surgeon wanted a stat gram stain on a should tissue and assumed this service was done at Milford lab.
* Biosafety cabinet, centrifuge, shipping training course are due by 9/30. Also-fill out your continuing Ed forms for 2024 due no later than 10/31/2024. If anyone has a current ASCP certification that I don’t have on file, please give to Laura also. Also need healthstream transcripts by end of year-
* New YNHHS career ladder being implemented- it’s very similar to the current BH one with a few changes. Ask Laura for more information if interested.
* Again, staff is reminded that cell phones and other personal electronic equipment (including ear buds) are not to be used in the lab area. Any questions see BH lab safety manual policy titled BH Standard Operating Procedures.
* Please remember to pay attention to all qc vial stability. Also do not use the QC toppers for Liquichek 1 and 2 controls.
* Please complete wet/dry testing for Epic Upgrade, we have 2 weeks left to complete all testing. Please see Virginia for testing labels.
* There is now liquid plasma that is kept in the ED at Milford. Liquid plasma has a longer outdate than regular plasma.
* Lisa talked about the J-C survey and it has been assigned and wants the results back by this weekend so it can be submitted 10/1. She emphasized following directions with all surveys and paying attention to details.
* Laura explained that all CAP survey directions must be followed and if you suspect your sample may have been mishandled, let laura/Virginia know asap so a replacement can be ordered.
* Dr. Yurtsever has been monitoring QC charts and looking at trends, shifts etc. For best patient results, she feels it is necessary to calibrate the EXL tests every 2 weeks instead of every month. A schedule is being made so that we can stay on track with this.
* Dr. Yurtsever is also implementing new QC rules. A 4 1S reject rule will begin for troponin ( 4 consecutive QC results within 1S or -1S will reject and require recalibration. This rule will be implemented at both campuses and is what YH is also doing.