



**MEMORANDUM #79**

TO: UNC Hospitals Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Nursing Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

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DATE: September 5, 2014

**SUBJECT: Changes in Lab Orders in Epic-Effective 9-Sep-2014**

UNCH McLendon Clinical Laboratories and Rex Laboratories have worked with the Epic Core team to develop the following improvements in Lab Orders:

1. **Streamlined Blood Culture Orders at UNCH:** Because at UNCH Epic go-live order level control over Phlebotomy versus Nurse collect status on lab orders was not available we had to quickly develop several Blood Culture orders to accomplish a Phlebotomy versus Nurse collect workflow. Order level control was implemented for most lab orders just before Rex go-live and Rex Laboratories was able to leverage this into a much more streamlined workflow for Blood Cultures. We have now reworked Blood Culture Orders for UNCH to also take advantage of these efficiencies.

**Effective 9-Sep-2014, Blood Culture Orders for UNCH inpatients will be as follows:**

**Blood Culture, Adult (LAB462)**

**Blood Culture, Pediatric (LAB5062)**

**In addition there will now only be two Procedure Panels: “Blood Culture, Adult x 2” and “Blood Culture, Pediatric x 2”, each consisting of two of the appropriate above orders.**

**For each Blood Culture order, the ordering user will need to answer the “Blood to be drawn by: Nurse/Phlebotomy” question (see example below) to ensure the order is routed in the desired manner.**

**Blood Culture, Adult**  
Routine, Once First occurrence Today at 1106

Priority:

Frequency:

Starting: 9/5/2014   At: 1106

First Occurrence: Today 1106

Scheduled Times:

9/5/14 1106

Specimen Src:

Specimen Type:

Questions:

Prompt	Answer
1. Blood to be drawn by:	Phlebotomy Nurse

Comments (F6):

**As is current practice, only Blood Culture orders with a “Start Time” of 4:00 am to 11:59 pm will be routed for UNCH McLendon Labs Phlebotomy Services to draw.**

2. **Specimen type and source being required on certain orders:** In order to properly perform and report testing on some samples (eg microbiology cultures) it is vital that the lab knows both the specimen type and source for the sample being submitted. The general consensus during the Epic build was to limit required fields and so currently this information is not a required field in Epic. However, if/when it is not entered at the time of order the laboratory staff calls other members of the patient care team to obtain the information. Since go-live it has become apparent that more time/effort is currently being expended obtaining this information than if the field were required at the time of order and so the appropriate changes have been made. **Default values and quick click buttons have been utilized to make entry of this information as efficient as possible. These changes will affect this limited subset orders at both UNCH and Rex.**
  
3. **Addition of an 11:00 pm UNCH McLendon Labs Phlebotomy Services general lab draw time:** Currently UNCH McLendon Labs Phlebotomy Services performs hourly draws for inpatient Lab orders with a “Start Time” from 4:00 am to 10:00 pm. This service will be extended one hour to include an 11:00 pm draw. **This means that ANY lab ordered with a “Start Time” from 4:00 am to 11:00 pm can be designated for Phlebotomy Services to draw. As noted above, Blood Culture orders with a “Start Time” 4:00 am to 11:59 pm will continue to be available for UNCH McLendon Labs Phlebotomy Services to draw.**