



MEMORANDUM #85

TO: UNC Hospitals Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Department Heads, Nursing Coordinators, Supervisors, Inpatient Pharmacy Services, and Core Laboratory Staff

FROM: Catherine Hammett-Stabler, PhD, Director, Core Laboratory *CS*
Connie A. Bishop (MT-ASCP), Associate Administrative Director, Core Laboratory *CB*
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DATE: September 22, 2009

SUBJECT: Retention of Samples by the Core Laboratory.

During the past few years the number of samples received into and processed by the Core Laboratory has grown from ~2000 to almost 4000 daily. As testing volumes have increased, storage space has unfortunately decreased and we have had to reduce the number of days for which we retain samples for add-ons and repeat testing. We are currently able to retain samples for four (4) days prior to disposal. This is for all samples and sample types. This period exceeds the storage requirements mandated by the College of American Pathologists (24 hour storage for urine and 48 hour storage for serum, plasma, and other body fluids). Please contact the Core Laboratory (966-2361) if you have questions regarding this policy.