



MEMORANDUM #64

TO: UNC Hospitals Housestaff, Attendings, Nursing Supervisors, Department Heads and Supervisors

FROM: Herbert C. Whinna, M.D., Ph.D., Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories *HW*
William K. Funkhouser, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories *WKF*
Cathy Holleman, Administrative Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories *CH*

SUBJECT: Send Out Clinical Testing

DATE: April 28, 2009

This notice is to remind clinical faculty that all requests for anatomic or clinical pathology referral testing (for either clinical or research purposes) must be routed through McLendon Clinical Laboratories. Specimens may not be sent directly by a physician to any outside laboratory. Hospital bylaws state that all patient specimens are hospital property and as such are to be processed by McLendon Clinical Laboratories in accordance with CLIA approved laboratory regulations and procedures. This requirement is to ensure protection of the patient materials, appropriate specimen handling, transport, documentation of the chain of custody, and specimen reporting.

Requests will be reviewed for specimen adequacy, accuracy and appropriateness. It is the policy of UNCH that diagnostic testing that is available in McLendon Clinical Laboratories will be performed within the facility. Specimens that require referral will be forwarded to a partner reference laboratory for testing. McLendon Clinical Laboratories will verify the accreditation status of the referral laboratory and will initiate contracts as appropriate.

For **Anatomic Pathology specimens**, call **843-1476** to determine appropriate handling, storage precautions, and delivery location.

For **Cytogenetics testing**, call **966-1595** to determine appropriate sample type, handling and storage precautions. Samples can be delivered to the Core Laboratory receiving window.

For **all other blood and body fluid referral tests**, deliver the specimen to the Core Laboratory receiving window (1st Floor East Wing, Rm 1075), or call **966-2362** (7:30a-4:30p) for specific collection, handling and storage information.

For questions regarding these changes, please contact Cathy Holleman at 966-2318.