







MEMORANDUM #126

TO: UNC Health Care System Ob-Gyn Physicians, Housestaff, Midwives, Department Heads and Supervisors

FROM:  Nichole Korpi-Steiner, Ph.D., Director of Point of Care Testing, McLendon Clinical Laboratories
 Lisa Rahangdale, M.D., Senior Medical Director for Ob-Gyn Ambulatory Services
 Morwood Meredith Jones, Asst. Admin. Director of Point of Care, McLendon Clinical Laboratories
 Herbert C. Whinna, M.D., Ph.D., Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

SUBJECT: **New Provider Performed Testing Training/Competency Program and EPIC Result Entry for Regulatory Compliance**

DATE: March 24, 2016

Effective April 4th 2016, a new training/competency program as well as EPIC result entry process will be implemented for Attending Physicians, Fellows, Residents and Housestaff in Ob-Gyn services performing point of care tests, including: KOH/Wet prep, Fern test and Nitrazine pH testing.

Laboratory and Ob-Gyn Leadership are piloting these changes in Ob-Gyn services in order to meet compliance with federal (CLIA) law requirements, The Joint Commission (TJC) and College of American Pathologists (CAP) accrediting organization standards. This program will subsequently be rolled out to other disciplines. Options to meet compliance were carefully considered in order to minimize any negative impact to routine clinical service practices. We recognize these will be changes in practice; however, compliance with regulations is non-optional and we appreciate your collaboration.

Regulatory requirements for Provider performed testing include: initial training, competency assessment within 6 months of training and annually thereafter, documented result reporting and a quality management program. Competency assessment requirements are more stringent for moderate-complexity tests including KOH/Wet prep and Fern test.

Significant changes are summarized below:

1. Training:
 - Current personnel will receive an email from Medical Training Solutions (MTS; donotreply@medtraining.org) including a link to assigned online training modules that require **completion between April-June 2016**.
 - New Residents/Fellows will be assigned online MTS training modules to be completed during orientation.
 - Human Resources personnel in the Department of Ob-Gyn will contact the POCT office (poc@unchealth.unc.edu) regarding new or discontinued UNC employment of Attending Physicians, Fellows, Residents and Housestaff in order to update personnel training list and schedule.
2. Competency assessment:
 - Make appointment for direct observation competency assessment.

- The email from MTS will also include a link to Learning Management System (LMS) for personnel to login and make a 15 minute appointment for direct observation competency assessment. Your appointment date should be scheduled for a time between July – December 2016 and the direct observation is **required to be completed within 6 months of training** (Please check to assure your direct observation appointment is within 6 months of training as inspectors focus on these dates). Please sign up for the “POC OBGYN Service Direct Observation” course in LMS which is a 15 minute appointment time.
 - To be **completed between July – December 2016** (MTS training must already be completed):
 - Personnel will receive an email from MTS including a link to assigned online competency assessment modules that **require completion within 6 months of initial training**. The goal of the online modules is to assess competency in test interpretation.
 - Personnel are required to complete competency assessment through direct observation by a Technical Consultant in the Point of Care Testing office during the pre-scheduled appointment time (via LMS, see above). The goal of the direct observation is to assess competency in following procedure for performing a test (e.g. personal protective equipment, labeling slide, focusing a microscope, etc), excluding interpretation which is assessed through MTS.
 - Review testing procedures online at:
http://intranet.unhealthcare.org/intranet/policies/mclendon_policies_general
 - The POCT office is located on 1st floor East Wing (behind GI Medicine Clinic and escalators), UNC Hospitals. Phone # 984-974-1416.
3. EPIC result entry for routine patient testing:
- Personnel are required to order and result tests (in EPIC) for appropriate documentation, billing and quality assurance. Applicable EPIC order options include:
POCT KOH Exam
POCT Wet Prep
POCT Fern Test
POCT Nitrazine pH
 - Use Enter/Edit Results in Epic to result the test(s). Refer to the link below for the EPIC tip sheet.
[Click Here for the tip sheet](#)
4. Quality management
- Personnel, on a rotating basis, are required to complete a proficiency testing survey including interpretation of images as part of required enrollment in an external quality assessment program. Two times per year POC/Lab staff will request testing personnel to complete the survey. Results will subsequently be submitted to the accrediting organization for grading. If grading indicates unacceptable findings, an investigation is required and will be performed with the testing personnel.

If you have any questions related to these changes, please contact the POCT office at 984-974-1416 or Dr. Korpi-Steiner at 984-974-1498.