

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
LABORATORY – POINT OF CARE POLICY MANUAL**

**Proficiency Testing**

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**Effective Date:** August 7, 2006

**Policy No:** POC 0013 -02

**Cross Referenced:**

**Origin:** Point of Care Tests

**Reviewed Date:** 6/10; 11/11; 6/12;6/13;7/14

**Authority:** Laboratory Director

**Revised Date:** May 30, 2012; 7/7/2014

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**SCOPE:** All clinical areas except OR.

**PURPOSE:** Proficiency testing is an important way of meeting the requirements of the accrediting agencies in the area of quality assurance of laboratory results. It is also mandated by accreditation bodies that laboratories participate in proficiency programs for all types of analysis. By participating in the program the laboratory staff and other clinicians can gain confidence in their abilities, knowledge of their capabilities and acknowledging the staff performance.

**DEFINITIONS:**

1. CAP = College of American Pathologist
2. ACT = Activated Clotting Time

**POLICY:** CAP will issue sets of samples for each analyte that participates in the program. The sample/s will be rotated amongst all users. The following POC tests participate in the program: Activating Clotting Time by Abbott I-Stat, creatinine by Abbott I-Stat, Accucheck, pregnancy test, urine dipstick by Clinitek Status Plus, occult blood, Amnisure, and Amnioswab. HRMC prohibits the referral of all proficiency samples to another laboratory.

**PROCEDURES:**

**For glucose – Accucheck Inform II meter (5 samples):**

1. Turn meter on.
2. Scan your operator ID.
3. Press the big arrow to go to the next screen.
4. Choose Proficiency.
5. Enter the sample number.
6. Run in similar manner as the patient.
7. Record the result on the form.
8. Sign off the attestation statement under testing personnel.

**For ACT – Hemochron Signature Elite meter:**

1. Turn meter on.
2. Scan your operator ID.
3. Enter 5 zeros plus the proficiency sample #.
4. Run in similar manner as the patient.
5. Record the result on the forms
6. Sign off the attestation statement under testing personnel.

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**For Amniosure and Amnioswab (3 samples):**

1. Samples for the Amnisure will be reconstituted by the POC coordinator.
2. Samples and amnisure kits will be distributed to various nurses in maternity.
3. Timer will be set for 10 minutes.
4. Record result on the form.
5. Sign off the attestation statement under testing personnel.

**For urine dipstick - Clinitek Status (proficiency samples are split from the main lab):**

1. Samples will be distributed to various techs/nurses in ER.
2. Turn meter on.
3. Enter operator ID.
4. Enter proficiency sample #.
5. Run in similar manner as the patient.
6. Record the result on the forms.

**For creatinine – Abbott I-Stat meter:**

1. Turn meter on.
2. Enter operator ID.
3. Enter 4 zeros plus the proficiency sample #.
4. Run in similar manner as the patient.
5. Record the result on the form.
6. Sign off the attestation statement under testing personnel.