

The Laboratory Report

CCMCP Laboratory Newsletter

March 2026

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What's New?

Respiratory Pathogen Panels are In-House

Turn around times for the **Respiratory Pathogens Panel** should be **under 120 minutes**, improving patient care.

High Sensitivity Troponin I and **NT-proBNP** are now available for Cardiac Testing

Insulin collection tube has changed from a green top to a **Red Top**. Please collect a **Red Top** for any **Insulin** testing.

New Urine Collection Kits in Use

New Urine Collection Kits include a Yellow vacutainer top along with the gray culture tube currently being used. Be sure to label and fill both tubes and send all specimens (including the cup) to the laboratory.

NURSING NOTES

- **Use full size tubes for blood draws whenever possible.**
PLEASE LIMIT USE OF MICROTAINERS.
- Be sure to **COLLECT lab specimens in Epic** before sending them to the lab. The lab cannot collect specimens for you.
- For blood culture collections, **do not cover the bottle barcode already on the bottle**, please place vertical anywhere else on the bottle.
- POC Glucose – Don't forget to add a comment to **all critical glucose results** – (high and low) to comply with CCMCP policy.
- **Blood Bank - An order to Transfuse must be in place along with the order for product to allow EPIC scanning of the product unit.** Please make sure both orders are in place before starting a transfusion.
- **Fill urine culture tubes (gray top) until the urine stops flowing.** If there isn't enough to fill properly, send the original container.



Collecting Ideal Specimens

Remember - **Clotting and Hemolysis happens at the time of collection.** Go slow when pulling through lines and always mix purple tops ASAP.

Never pull out a visible clot – this will result in abnormal test results that could impact the patient.

Never pour one container into another - this will result in abnormal test results that could impact the patient.

Turnaround Times

The PCCMC laboratory still boasts turnaround times of **30 minutes or less** for CBC, CMP and rapid testing for the Emergency Department. TATs are similar for inpatient testing as well.

Coming Soon!

Fully automated Urinalysis and Blood Bank instrumentation.

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Main Laboratory

Ext. 40081 or “**Call Lab**” on Vocera



