

LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER POLICY

Subject: POINT-OF-CARE LABORATORY TESTING (POCT)	Original Issue Date: 11/1/94	Policy # 801
	Supersedes: 11/18/19	Effective Date: 2/06/23
Policy Owner(s): Medical Director, Laboratory and Pathology Executive Sponsor(s): Chief Medical Officer		
Department(s) and Committee(s) Consulted: Laboratories and Pathology Nursing Services Emergency Services Operating Rooms Ambulatory Care	Reviewed & Approved by: Attending Staff Association Executive Committee Senior Executive Council	Approved by: (Signature on File) Chief Medical Officer
		(Signature on File) Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

To ensure LAC+USC Medical Center point-of-care clinical laboratory testing (POCT) meets accreditation standards and complies with applicable federal and State laws and regulations.

POLICY

LAC+USC Medical Center Department of Laboratories and Pathology shall:

- A. Ensure compliance with licensing and accreditation requirements by administering a program that monitors and documents the quality of point-of-care testing.
- B. Determine the clinical appropriateness and utilization of test results prior to authorization of:
 1. New test to institute
 2. Expanded point-of-care testing location
- C. Develop a Quality Management program that addresses the following elements:
 1. Evaluation, selection and validation of device or reagent kit to be instituted.
 2. Testing personnel: For point of care tests designated by the FDA as “non-waived”, non-physician providers must show a diploma indicating completion of college education or beyond.
 - Qualification as sanctioned under the California Business and Professions Code
 - Training program
 - Competency Assessment
 3. Policy and procedure for the test which include:
 - Testing procedure/Equipment operation
 - Quality assurance procedures, include equipment preventive maintenance and troubleshooting
 - Reagent storage and handling
 - Quality control solution storage and handling
 - Specimen collection, handling and preservation (if applicable)
 - Result interpretation and documentation
 4. Quality Assessment:
 - Staff compliance to the policies in place
 - Staff competency
 - Proficiency Testing

		Page 2	Of 3
Subject: POINT-OF-CARE LABORATORY TESTING (POCT)	Effective Date: 2/06/23	Policy # 801	

DEFINITION

Point of Care Testing (POCT) or bedside testing is defined as laboratory testing at or near the site of patient care using a portable device that does not require a dedicated or permanent space.

PROCEDURE

In order to implement POCT in a clinical area, the manager/director of the area must submit a completed **DHS - Request for Point of Care Testing (Attachment A)** to the Department of Laboratories and Pathology, Laboratory Administration, Clinic Tower, Room A7E, M-F 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

CLIA REGISTRATION:

POCT at LAC+USC Medical Center is under the direction of the Department of Laboratories and Pathology.

RESPONSIBILITY

Department of Laboratories and Pathology
Administration
Attending Staff
Residents
Mid-Level Providers
Nursing Staff

PROCEDURE DOCUMENTATION

Point-of-Care Testing Procedure Manual
Laboratories and Pathology Policy and Procedure Manual
Nursing Service and Education Policy Manual
Nursing Service and Education Unit Structure Standards
Attending Staff Manual

REFERENCE

Federal Register/Vol.57, No. 40, February 28, 1992: 42 CFR Section 405, et al.
California Business and Professions Code: Division 2, Chapter 3, Sections 1200-1327
California Code of Regulations: Title 17, Chapter 2, Subchapter 1, Group 2
College of American Pathologists (CAP): Standards for Laboratory Accreditation

ATTACHMENT

Attachment A – DHS Request for Point of Care Testing

		Page 3	Of 3
Subject: POINT-OF-CARE LABORATORY TESTING (POCT)	Effective Date: 2/06/23	Policy # 801	

REVISION DATES

January 6, 1999; April 9, 2002; May 10, 2005; October 3, 2008; February 11, 2014; December 13, 2016; November 18, 2019, February 6, 2023