

**OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

**NUMBER: 1530
VERSION: 2**

SUBJECT/TITLE: ADM 13.0: REFERENCE LABORATORIES

POLICY: Prior to selection of reference laboratories to which contracts are awarded, a countywide committee working in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services Division of Contracts and Grants conducts a rigorous screening process.

PURPOSE: Define the selection process for reference laboratories for the County of Los Angeles, Department of Health Services.

DEPARTMENTS: PATHOLOGY

PROCEDURE: Certain requested laboratory tests are not performed in house for the following reasons:

- Test volume is too low to be cost-effectively performed in house
- Insufficient staff
- Lack of equipment
- Temporary instrument or reagent problems
- Temporary staffing problems

These specimens are submitted for testing to:

- Laboratories at other Los Angeles County facilities
- The State Public Health Laboratory
- Reference laboratories with which the County of Los Angeles has contracted for specified services
- Non-contract reference laboratories for certain esoteric tests, which are not available from other LA County facilities or contract laboratory services.

The Los Angeles County Laboratories forward test specimens to each other to improve utilization of laboratory equipment and personnel throughout the County system and to reduce the cost for testing sent to outside laboratories. These services are utilized whenever possible.

All Los Angeles County Laboratories and contract laboratories to which clinical specimens are referred are licensed under the Clinical Laboratories Improvement Act and are accredited by The Joint Commission and/or the College of American Pathologists. Except in special circumstances, this is also true for non-contract reference laboratories to which specimens for esoteric tests may be referred.

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The following laboratories have been selected on the basis of reliability, cost-effectiveness, service levels, and appropriateness of test menus, financial stability and accreditation status.

Quest Diagnostics, Inc.; Focus Diagnostics, Inc.; Myriad Genetics.

Prior to finalizing contracts, the proposed choices are recommended for approval to the Medical Executive Committee at each facility by the respective Directors of the Pathology Department.

| DATE | REVISION MADE | BY: | REV: |
|-----------|--|-------------|------|
| 6/28/2010 | Changed Policy number (ADM13.0) and put in PPM format. | Julie Foley | 13.0 |
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| "No changes in procedure content, new version was created to satisfy CAP requirement TLC.11485 - New Director Procedure Approval " | |
| References: | |
| Approved by: Armine Baltayan (Interim Laboratory Director), Deepthi Karunasiri (Co-Director of Clinical Pathology) | Date: 08/13/2018 |
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