

**West County Health Centers, Inc.**

<b>Protocol:</b>	<b>RN Daily Triage of Abnormal Labs</b>
<b>Department:</b>	<b>Nursing</b>

<b>Protocol #:</b>
<b>Page:</b>

**Summary:** All abnormal labs are checked daily by the care team RN to ensure that critically abnormal labs are dealt with same day. Any abnormal labs assigned to providers who are not in the office and which need to be dealt with same day will be re-assigned to a provider who can take action that same day.

1. At least once a day, the care team RN and/or representative will go into the L jelly bean of all providers on their care team to look at “to be reviewed” abnormal lab results that have come in during the last 24 hours. To quickly look for and triage abnormal labs, make sure that the “Labs”, “Imaging” and “Send-Out” boxes are checked and that “In-house” is not checked. Sort by result date by clicking on “Result Date” so that the most recent results appear at the top of the list (because without doing this step, the Imaging results appear below all lab results).

Order Date	Coll Date	Result Date	Patient	Labs/Diagnostic Imaging	Reason	Result	Assignee
10/21/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		CBC WITH DIFFERENTIAL (AUTOMATED)	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/21/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/19/2009	10/19/2009	10/22/2009		HERPES 1/2 IGG, HERPESELECT TYPE AB5	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/19/2009	10/19/2009	10/22/2009		HERPES IGM W/RFX TITER	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/16/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		CBC WITH DIFFERENTIAL (AUTOMATED)	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/16/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		THYROXINE, FREE, DIRECT (Free T4)	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/16/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL	Result Received: Quest	Result Status : F	Wyman
10/16/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		TSH, (3RD GENERATION)	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/14/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		GLUCOSE, FASTING	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/14/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		HEMOGLOBIN A1C IMMUNOASSAY	Result Received: Quest	Result Status : F	Wyman
10/07/2009	10/21/2009	10/22/2009		RPR/REFLEX TPPA (diagnosis)	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
07/23/2009		10/22/2009		MRI:Elbow, left	S R Imaging		Wyman
10/16/2009	10/20/2009	10/21/2009		CBC WITH DIFFERENTIAL (AUTOMATED)	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/16/2009	10/20/2009	10/21/2009		COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL	Result Received: Quest		Wyman
10/09/2009		10/21/2009		Ultrasound : Breast, left			Wyman

2. The abnormal labs / diagnostic imaging results that should be reassigned to a provider for same day action include:
  - a. Complete Blood Count CBC:
    - i. HCT < 25%
    - ii. WBC < 2,500 or > 15,000 /uL

- iii. Platelets < 50,000/uL for non HIV patients
  - b. Complete Metabolic Panel CMP or Basic Metabolic Panel (BMP)
    - i. Sodium < 133 mmol/L
    - ii. Potassium < 3.5 or > 5.0 mmol/L
    - iii. Creatinine < 0.5 or > 1.5 mg/dL
    - iv. Glucose > 500 mg/dL
    - v. Liver enzymes (AST and ALT) > 200 u/L
    - vi. Amylase and / or Lipase > 200
  - c. PT/INR: all results should be forwarded to a provider who is present that day, refer to Coumadin tracking protocol
  - d. Glucose: > 500 mg/dL
  - e. HCG Quant: any abnormal should be re-assigned to a provider who is present
  - f. Any Culture with Sensitivity: make sure that patient's infection is susceptible to the treatment that they are receiving. If the patient's infection is not susceptible to the medication prescribed, re-assign this lab to a provider who is present.
  - g. Xray: Any acute fractures
  - h. Ultrasound: Any mass found on ultrasound should be sent to covering provider.
3. Examples of labs / diagnostic imaging results that would *not* require same day action include:
- a. Lipid Panel
  - b. Antibody
  - c. Pap
  - d. Dexascan
  - e. MRI
  - f. Thyroid studies
4. Guidelines for deciding which providers receive the re-assigned labs should be site specific. The nurse should also notify the provider receiving reassigned labs to look in the L jelly bean via a site-specific alert process (post-it note on computer monitor, or face to face notification).

<b>Effective Date:</b>	<b>Revision Date:</b>
<b>Supervisor Approval:</b> _____ <i>Initial</i>	<b>Medical Director Approval:</b> _____ <i>Initial</i>