Laboratory and Pathology Services Narrative

Cumberland Heights does not perform onsite laboratory or pathology testing with these exceptions: blood glucose monitoring, on site urine drug screens, strep test and alco-sensor testing for alcohol use. Contracts are maintained with providers who are either The Joint Commission accredited; CAP approved or meets applicable Federal regulations for clinical laboratories. Services are considered sufficient to meet patient needs and include the following: hematology, chemistry, microbiology, clinical microscopy and seroimmunology.

Nursing staff are responsible for specimen collection as ordered by the physician. Laboratory reference manuals and supplies are provided by the contract laboratories. Unless deemed medically necessary and so noted on the physician's orders, patients admitted to detox have a complete blood count (CBC,) with differential and platelets and CMP. Female patients who have not had a hysterectomy receive a urine pregnancy test upon admissions and if positive serum pregnancy test obtained and collected stat. If urine pregnancy test is negative then serum pregnancy test is sent routine. All patients have a urine drug screen performed on admission. On site urine drug screens are sent to the lab for enzyme immunoassay quantitative detection results. Tests are ordered based on the individual patient's need and randomly "for cause". These specimens are collected and stored until collected by the contract laboratory courier service on a daily basis. Laboratory results are reviewed by nursing and physician staff with follow-up testing as needed.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Contract lab providers are required to have an internal quality control program. In addition, the Medical Director and the Director of Nursing have determined quality indicators which are monitored monthly as part of the Physical Health Services Monitoring and Evaluation Report. This report is submitted to and reviewed by the QM Office. If an opportunity for improvement or a problem arises, a Narrative Analysis may be initiated by the Director of Nursing. These analyses include action plans which are then monitored for effectiveness by the methods previously described.