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Effective Date:	08-01-2022
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Department/Section:	Laboratory Unit
Document Title:	POINT OF CARE TESTING

#### **PURPOSE:**

- 1. To ensure that point of care testing is appropriately managed and quality assured in accordance with accreditation standards-health and safety good practices.
- To emphasize the benefits to clinicians and patients which includes rapid turnaround time, ease of use and the ability to perform ongoing patient monitoring.

#### LEVEL:

All Laboratory Personnel

#### **DEFINITION OF TERMS:**

**Point of Care Testing (POCT)-** any clinical test performed on a patient's sample by a healthcare professional outside the traditional clinical laboratory.

**Point of Care Equipment-** those instruments, analyzers or devices (except those performing physiological measurements) which are used by non-laboratory personnel and are able to produce test results which would normally be provided by the laboratory.

#### **POLICY:**

- 1. The Laboratory Unit proposing a new POCT device or system shall submit a case of need stating why the device is required. The case of need must include:
  - 1.1. A description of the purpose of the device and its benefits.
  - 1.2. A cost-benefit analysis
  - 1.3. Supporting information including lifetime cost.
- 2. The POCT Coordinator, a Senior Staff from the Laboratory, shall have the following functions:
  - 2.1. Recommends procedures that will ensure the quality of results of POCT in consultation with the Pathologist.



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- 2.2. Ensures that POCT machines/devices and kits are properly maintained.
- 2.3. Supervises the trained and certified healthcare personnel or POCT Operators of POCT devices/machines.
- 2.4. Ensures that the POCT Operators have appropriate trainings and checks the competency of the operators regularly.
- Ensures that quality control (QC) is implemented and reviews POCT QC results periodically.
- 3. The POCT Operator, who is a trained and certified healthcare personnel shall have the following functions, but not limited to:
  - 3.1. Ensure accurate results of POCT.
  - Ensure that POCT machines/devices and kits are properly maintained and stored.
  - Run tests on quality control at least once each day or as recommended by the manufacturer.
  - 3.4. Initially, implements quality assurance program or contact the Main Laboratory for assistance, when a POCT machine/ device is not properly functioning or the control sample is in out of control range.
  - 3.5. Reports to the supervising POCT Coordinator any untoward incidents or problems concerning POCT.
- 4. The Point-of-Care Testing Program shall be monitored and evaluated periodically in order to assure that the program is meeting the needs of its stakeholders like patients and healthcare teams.
- 5. It is the responsibility of the Main Laboratory (DPOTMH) to ensure the quality of all point-of-care testing that falls under its jurisdiction, regardless where testing is performed, in accordance to standards and guidelines set forth by the licensing and regulatory bodies, such as DOH and other authorized government agencies.
- Only trained and certified healthcare personnel or POCT Operators shall perform point-of-care laboratory testing, who shall follow the standard operating



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procedures, protocols and guidelines when using the devices, and who should understand the contraindications and/ or its limitations.

- 7. Only authorized POCT devices shall be used for all POCT testing in Una Konsulta, performed by trained and certified healthcare personnel.
- 8. Preventative maintenance of all POCT devices shall be performed and documented in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and regulatory standards to ensure result validity.
- 9. Proper request and charging for POCT procedures shall be duly made by the requesting patient care areas. Accountability rests upon the person-in-charge to the patient to ensure proper request and charging. Applicable sanctions shall be apply for failure to observe the same.
- 10. All POCT test results shall be properly documented, filed and reported.
- 11. Turn-Around Time for POCT test results shall be properly observed.
- 12. Safety and Infection Control Standard precautions must be followed accordingly for collecting and handling blood and other specimens.
- 13. Proper waste management shall also be observed.

#### **DOCUMENTATION:**

**New Policy** 

#### **DISSEMINATION:**

Policies and Procedure Manual Orientations



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#### **PURPOSE:**

To discuss the procedures involved in the point of care testing.

#### SCOPE:

Applies to the all Laboratory Unit staff of Una Konsulta

#### **PERSON RESPONSIBLE:**

Medical Technologists

#### **PROCEDURES:**

- 1. Prior to use of POCT, check and assess the status (functionality) of the device.
- 2. Prepare all materials and equipment needed for the procedure.
- 3. Patients requiring a point of care test must be identified by a minimum data set name, sex, date of birth.
- 4. Give proper instruction to the patient and what to expect in the procedure.
- 5. Perform the testing.
- 6. Patients' results must be securely filed in medical record and if possible must be in hospital computer system.
- 7. Any adverse incidents involving POCT devices, e.g. instrument failure, Health and Safety issue or clinical incident must be reported immediately.



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	KEY TASKS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1.	Checks and assesses the status (functionality) of the device prior to using POCT	
2.	Prepares all materials and equipment needed for the procedure	
3.	Identifies the patient requiring a point of care test must be identified by a minimum data set name, sex, date of birth	Medical Technologist
4.	Gives proper instruction to the patient and what to expect in the procedure	
5.	Encodes the result in the hospital computer system	
6.	Reports immediately any adverse incidents involving the POCT devices	

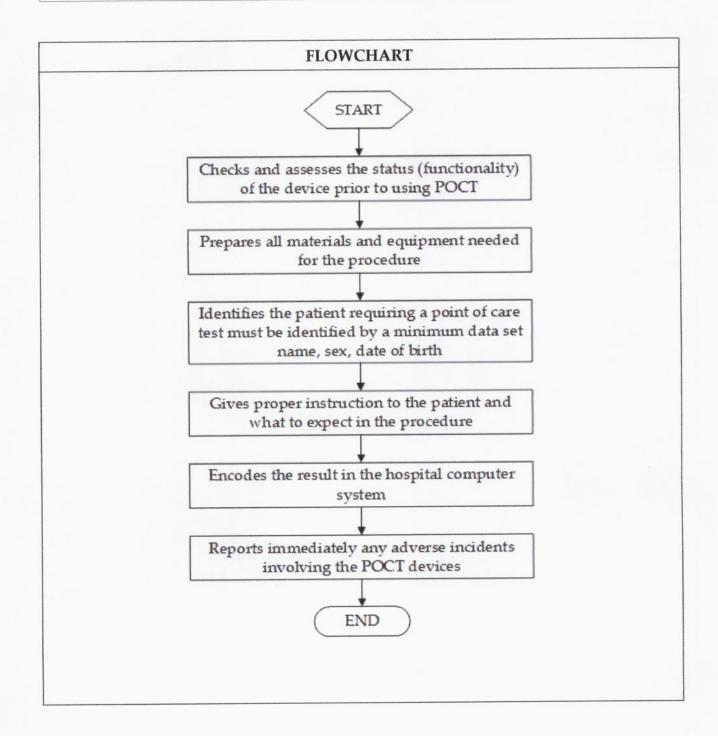


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