Point of Care Testing Expansion in Public Health; One County’s Experience

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Marion County Public Health Department Laboratory.

Mission: We produce and share accurate and timely analytical data on personal and environmental health using cost-effective services.

Vision: We are a vital, dependable and integral component of the public health team in Marion County, Indiana supporting the mission of the Marion County Public Health Department Laboratory.

Increase QUALITY and QUANTITY of Public Health Testing

The Public Health Laboratory manages waived and moderate complexity testing in a similar manner. Competency is required initially after training, 6 months after and yearly after that as long as the person does the testing. For the POC testing that we currently manage (HIV 1/2-oral, UA pregnancy and urine chemistries, hemoglobin) it takes place on the first Wednesday of the month in a fixed location. Supervisors register their staff before their competency anniversary takes place on the first Wednesday of the month in a fixed location. (HIV 1/2 after training, 6 months after and yearly after that as long as the person does the testing. The Lab makes sure training and re-certification testing was done in accordance with guidelines. If gaps in skills were identified, the Lab makes sure training and re-certification testing was done in accordance with guidelines.

It is the Laboratory’s responsibility to make sure the testing personnel know how to perform and record testing that is done. Furthermore the Lab audits the service location and practice records to make sure testing was done in accordance with guidelines. If gaps in skills or actions are observed, then the Lab makes sure training and resources are made available to correct deficiencies.

We don’t currently manage glucose, cholesterol or A1c, and so no competency testing is being done for those tests.

2014 Test Tally and Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>In Lab Count</th>
<th>Personnel trained</th>
<th>Outside Lab Count</th>
<th>Personnel trained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIV screening</td>
<td>12,020</td>
<td></td>
<td>2948(21)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urinalysis</td>
<td>905/10860*</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>390/4680*(264)</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td></td>
<td>127(7)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total test count</td>
<td>14,929</td>
<td></td>
<td>3501</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Previously may not have been detected, because testing did not occur.

**Includes WIC staff that only provide hemoglobin testing, which is not included in the test tally totals.

&One test yields 12 results.

Training Registration

POCT Locations

Program Goals

Testing personnel for all point of care clinical tests (at health fairs and other locations) need to:

- Collect specimens appropriately;
- Label and store specimens appropriately;
- Understand and then follow the manufacturer’s instructions for each test performed;
- Know how to perform the testing, including:
  - Collect a proper specimen
  - Positively identify the patient and specimen
  - Preserve the specimen appropriately (if applicable)
- Understand and adhere to the transport requirements
- Check for extreme changes in such things as humidity, temperature, or lighting; as these may affect test results.
- Know how to document and communicate the test results, and enter the result in to the EMR (Insight);
- Are able to identify inaccurate results or test system failures.

References