

# LABORATORY ASSISTING, 51.0802.00

**APPLY STANDARD PRECAUTIONS AND SAFETY MEASURES** PCT1.0

- 1.1** Demonstrate knowledge of communicable diseases and blood borne pathogens PCT1.1

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- 1.3** Use proper hand hygiene according CDC (Center for Disease Control) PCT1.3

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- 1.2** Use Universal Precautions according to OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) and use Transmission-based Precautions according to CDC (Center for Disease Control) PCT1.2

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- 1.4** Don, remove, and discard PPE (personal protective equipment such as gloves, gowns, masks, lab coats, goggles, and face shields) according to standard procedure PCT1.4

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- 1.5** Demonstrate knowledge of isolation and the use of isolation procedures PCT1.5

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- 1.6** Comply with hazardous labeling requirements according to OSHA (e.g., safety signs, symbols, and special instructions) PCT1.6

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- 1.7** Describe procedures for cleaning laboratory spills PCT1.7

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- 1.8** Handle and dispose of contaminated and hazardous items according to OSHA guidelines PCT1.8

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- 1.9** Use fire and chemical safety protocols (e.g., SDSs and the use of fire extinguishers) PCT1.9

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- 1.10** Describe evacuation plans used by various facilities and statewide alert codes PCT1.10

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- 1.11** Maintain a clean work area (e.g., cleaning agents, Clorox, and other disinfectants ) PCT1.11

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- 1.12** Maintain a safe work environment (e.g., proper storage of equipment, materials, and chemicals; proper containment of food and personal items; hair tied back and minimal jewelry) PCT1.12

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- 1.13** Use equipment, materials, and chemicals according to manufacturer guidelines PCT1.13

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**1.14 Report unsafe conditions for self and others (e.g., frayed cords, spillages, puddles on floor, and bed rails down) PCT1.14**

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**1.15 Demonstrate proper body mechanics and lifting techniques PCT1.15**

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**MAINTAIN THE LABORATORY ACCORDING TO INDUSTRY REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS PCT2.0**

**2.1 Comply with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines for the laboratory [e.g., CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services), CDC (Center for Disease Control), OSHA, CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment)] PCT2.1**

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**2.2 Adhere to CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments) regulations and their impact on laboratory functions and procedures PCT2.2**

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**2.3 Comply with voluntary accrediting and inspection agency requirements [e.g., CAP (College of American Pathologists), Joint Commission, and AABB (American Association of Blood Banks)] PCT2.3**

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**2.4 Communicate test results, reference ranges, and specimen requirements to authorized sources according to HIPPA guidelines PCT2.4**

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**2.5 Assess active involvement in local, state, and national associations and organizations (people and resources) to keep up-to-date regarding the industry PCT2.5**

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**DEMONSTRATE LEGAL AND ETHICAL PRACTICES PCT3.0**

**3.1 Recognize liability associated with the practice of laboratory assisting (risk management, patient refusal to comply) PCT3.1**

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**3.2 Comply with the Patients' Bill of Rights according to AMA (American Medical Association) and AHA (American Hospital Association) PCT3.2**

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**3.3 Protect patient confidentiality according to HIPPA guidelines PCT3.3**

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**3.4 Function within the laboratory assistant's scope of practice (duties and responsibilities) PCT3.4**

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**PERFORM THE PHLEBOTOMY PROCEDURE PCT4.0**

**4.1 Explain the legal scope of practice and laws and regulations regarding phlebotomy and point-of-care testing PCT4.1**

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**4.2 Use terms, abbreviations, and codes commonly used in laboratory testing PCT4.2**

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**4.3 Read physician orders/laboratory requisitions to determine specimen requirements PCT4.3**

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**4.4 Order tests according to physician's orders, including inside and outside laboratories PCT4.4**

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**4.5 Follow written facility testing procedures and protocol PCT4.5**

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- 4.6 Use the proper method (two proofs of identify) to ensure patient identification** PCT4.6
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- 4.7 Provide a comfortable, safe environment and explain lab procedures to the patient, using an interpreter if needed** PCT4.7
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- 4.8 Use phlebotomy equipment according to manufacturer guidelines** PCT4.8
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- 4.9 Select the appropriate tube following test requirement guidelines** PCT4.9
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- 4.10 Describe basic functions of the cardiovascular system** PCT4.10
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- 4.11 Distinguish characteristics of arterial, venous, and capillary blood** PCT4.11
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- 4.12 Demonstrate an understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the hand and arm** PCT4.12
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- 4.13 Perform the phlebotomist collection procedures (venous blood, capillary blood, blood cultures)** PCT4013
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**PERFORM SPECIMEN  
COLLECTION AND  
PROCESSING  
PROCEDURES** PCT5.0

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- 5.1 Demonstrate the proper method of patient identification** PCT5.1
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- 5.2 Instruct the patient in the proper procedure for collecting semen, urine, feces, and other body fluids** PCT5.2
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- 5.3 Describe procedures for testing urine, blood, occult blood, and capillary glucose** PCT5.3
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- 5.4 Use terms, abbreviations, and codes commonly used in the laboratory regarding specimen collection and processing (e.g., capillary vs. venous vs. arterial)** PCT5.4
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- 5.5 Use reference values for selected specimen (point-of-care testing)** PCT5.5
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- 5.6 Read physician orders/laboratory requisitions to determine specimen requirements** PCT5.6
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- 5.7 Follow written facility testing procedures** PCT5.7
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- 5.8 Choose equipment and supplies for selected specimens** PCT5.8
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- 5.9 Use blood bank bands and identification according to facilities policies** PCT5.9
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- 5.10 Label, transport, and store selected specimens according to established protocol** PCT5.10
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- 5.11 Determine specimen acceptability (e.g., preparation; type of specimen; collection, handling, and storage of specimen; and presence of interfering substances)** PCT5.11
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**5.12** Prepare for a test run (sample and reagent preparation, use of standards and controls, instrument calibration, performance and maintenance checks, malfunction identification and troubleshooting) **PCT5.12**

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**5.13** Handle sterile and non-sterile items according to standards and procedures **PCT5.13**

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**5.14** Perform specimen collection procedures (e.g., throat cultures and RSV swabs) **PCT5.14**

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**5.15** Perform processing and pre-analytic preparation of specimens (centrifuge, separate, aliquot, and label) **PCT5.15**

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**5.16** Store specimens (time, temperature, light, packaging, and transport off-site) **PCT5.16**

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**5.17** Follow chain-of-custody procedure (drug screen testing, blood alcohol testing) **PCT5.17**

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**5.18** Report results according to established protocol and using appropriate documentation procedures **PCT5.18**

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**5.19** Identify and report specimens that are STAT or ASAP according to established protocol **PCT5.19**

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**5.20** Define quality control terms (e.g., trends and shifts, means and modes, and documentation and corrective action) **PCT5.20**

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**DEMONSTRATE  
LABORATORY  
DOCUMENTATION,  
QUALITY CONTROL, AND  
QUALITY  
ASSURANCE** **PCT6.0**

**6.1** Explain the quality control process on manual testing and instrumentation **PCT6.1**

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**6.2** Explain the quality control check on refrigerators, centrifuge, rotators, and incubators **PCT6.2**

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**6.3** Apply quality improvement procedures to laboratory activities as defined by the facility, department, and profession **PCT6.3**

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**6.4** Perform quality assessment and improvement activities **PCT6.4**

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**6.5** Perform preventive maintenance on instruments and equipment (e.g, recognize equipment malfunctions and notify appropriate authority) **PCT6.5**

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**6.6** Describe calibrating and monitoring instruments **PCT6.6**

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**6.7** Recognize procedural and technical problems and take corrective action according to predetermined criteria **PCT6.7**

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**PERFORM URINALYSIS  
TESTING** **PCT7.0**

**7.1** Demonstrate knowledge of basic physiology of urinary system **PCT7.1**

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**7.2 Prepare for testing (perform instrument setup, calibration, and maintenance; evaluate reagent/dipstick acceptability; collect, handle, and store specimen; perform quality control procedures)** PCT7.2

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**7.3 Perform macroscopic examination of urine [physical and chemical tests, identify normal/abnormal values, recognize interfering substances, define method limitation(s)]** PCT7.3

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**7.4 Perform confirmatory tests (e.g., clinitest, ictocheck, acetest, ASSA)** PCT7.4

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**APPLY PRINCIPLES OF IMMUNOLOGY/POINT OF CARE** PCT8.0

**8.1 Determine specimen acceptability (patient preparation, type of specimen, collection, handling and storage, presence of interfering substances)** PCT8.1

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**8.2 Prepare for test run (prepare sample and reagent, use standards and controls, calibrate instrument or apparatus, perform maintenance checks, identify/troubleshoot malfunctions)** PCT8.2

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**8.3 Perform immunological assays** PCT8.3

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**8.4 Interpret and report results (identify questionable/contradictory results and provide to appropriate authority)** PCT8.4

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**8.5 Perform and evaluate quality control procedures related to each task according to manufacturer guidelines and perform corrective action if needed** PCT8.5

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**APPLY PRINCIPLES OF HEMATOLOGY** PCT9.0

**9.1 Determine specimen acceptability (collect, handle, and store specimen; evaluate type and age of specimen and additive; label properly; check for clots)** PCT9.1

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**9.2 Prepare specimen for analysis (prepare sample and reagents, use standards and controls, perform performance and maintenance checks, identify and troubleshoot malfunctions)** PCT9.2

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**9.3 Prepare acceptable blood films [peripheral (size/width thickness, feather edge, straight, and free of streaks) homogeneity, and labeling]** PCT9.3

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**9.4 Stain blood films (e.g., Wright's stain, iron and controls, and retic)** PCT9.4

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**9.5 Perform erythrocyte sedimentation rates (e.g., Wintrobe, Westergren, or their modifications)** PCT9.5

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**APPLY PRINCIPLES OF COAGULATION AND HEMOSTASIS** PCT10.0

**10.1 Determine specimen acceptability (collection techniques; transport conditions; time, temperature, handling, and storage; additive present—blood-to-anticoagulant ration; check for clots or hemolysis)** PCT10.1

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**10.2 Prepare specimen for analysis (prepare centrifuge, maintain specimen acceptability relative to time and temperature)** PCT10.2

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**10.3 Prepare for test run (prepare sample and reagent, use standards and controls)** PCT10.3

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**10.4 Perform bleeding time (platelet count, limitations of procedure)** PCT10.4

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**APPLY PRINCIPLES OF MICROBIOLOGY** PCT11.0

**11.1 Determine specimen acceptability (patient preparation, type of specimen, collection, handling and storage of specimen, presence of interfering substances)** PCT11.1

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**11.2 Prepare smears and stains (sample and reagent/stain preparation)** PCT11.2

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**11.3 Inoculate media (sample and media preparation)** PCT11.3

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**11.4 Incubate media (temperature requirements, prepare incubator, maintenance checks)** PCT11.4

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**11.5 Report results to appropriate authority** PCT11.5

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**11.6 Perform and evaluate quality control procedures related to each task and document corrective action** PCT11.6

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**REPORT TEST RESULTS** PCT12.0

**12.1 Identify and analyze reference values** PCT12.1

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**12.2 Identify, analyze, and respond to critical values** PCT12.2

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**12.3 Match laboratory results with patient information** PCT12.3

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**12.4 Identify abnormal and questionable/contradictory results and refer them to the appropriate authority** PCT12.4

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**12.5 Demonstrate understanding or a variety to laboratory documents for reporting test results both manually and electronically** PCT12.5

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**12.6 Notify specified laboratory personnel when having difficulty with a procedure** PCT12.6

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**12.7 Follow established procedure for correcting and/or amending manual or electronic reports** PCT12.7

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**MAINTAIN LABORATORY SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT INVENTORY** PCT13.0

**13.1 Check for adequate inventory of laboratory supplies and equipment** PCT13.1

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**13.2 Use protocol for ordering laboratory supplies and equipment** PCT13.2

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**13.4 Describe storage of laboratory supplies and equipment** PCT13.4

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**13.3 Receive and catalog incoming supplies** PCT13.3

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**13.5 Prepare, label, and store working reagents** PCT13.5

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**13.6 Use information management systems to record and retrieve laboratory data from work produced on site and reference laboratories** PCT13.6