



Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

To: Kent Hospital Medical Staff and Kent Hospital Nursing Staff

From: Cunxian Zhang, MD, PhD
Chief of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Kent Hospital

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Phlebotomy Manager, Kent Hospital

Date: March 29, 2024

Re: Lab updates on blood draws

We are pleased to announce that Kent Hospital laboratory has hired two new phlebotomists who work in the early morning to help improve morning laboratory tests. Laboratory orders placed before 3:30am will be collected between 5am and 8:30am. If orders are placed after 3:30am, blood draws will be performed with the 10am routine collection.

As you know, “STAT” tests are used to assist immediate treatment decisions in life-threatening conditions, but they may be used for “convenience”. Because STAT overuse is disruptive to the laboratory process and can delay not only “routine” tests (including routine morning tests) but also “true STAT” tests, we would like to ask that unnecessary STAT orders be reduced.

Also, please try to order multiple tests at the same time instead of separate times. This can help decrease the number of times we stick a patient for blood draws and therefore improve the overall patient satisfaction.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Lauren Beverly, phlebotomy manager, at x35341. Thank you very much for your attention.