 Department of Health Government of Nunavut		<b>NURSING POLICY, PROCEDURE AND PROTOCOLS</b>	
		<b>Community Health Nursing</b>	
<b>TITLE:</b>		<b>SECTION:</b>	<b>POLICY NUMBER:</b>
<b>Requisitioning Laboratory Studies</b>		Diagnostics	08-002-00
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	<b>REVIEW DUE:</b>	<b>REPLACES NUMBER:</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PAGES:</b>
February 10, 2018	February 2021		2
<b>APPLIES TO:</b>			
Community Health Nurses			

**POLICY 1:**

Registered Nurses working as a community health nurse may initiate laboratory studies as per the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch *Clinical Practice Guidelines for Nurses in Primary Care, Pediatric Clinical Practice Guidelines for Nurses in Primary Care*, other territorial / national guidelines and/or in consultation with a physician or nurse practitioner.

**POLICY 2:**

The name of the person ordering the laboratory tests shall ensure his/her name is entered on the lab requisition form. Only the person's name that is ordering the test should be entered. Do not include a physician's name when the physician did not specifically order that test.

**PRINCIPLES:**

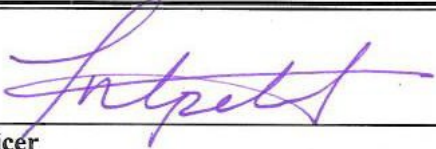

- To make efficient use of the visiting specialist / family physician, relevant laboratory studies should be initiated prior to the physician referral, so the results available at the time of consultation.
- The practitioner must only order laboratory studies which are clinically indicated and are recommended by territorial or national clinical guidelines.
- The nurse ordering any tests is responsible and accountable for reviewing and following up the lab results.

**REFERENCES:**

First Nations and Inuit Health Branch. (2000). *Clinical Practice Guidelines for Nurses in Primary Care*.

Ottawa, ON.

First Nations and Inuit Health Branch. (2001). *Pediatric Clinical Practice Guidelines for Nurses in Primary Care*. Ottawa, ON.

Approved by:		11 FEB 2011
Chief Nursing Officer		Date
		
Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services		Date
		Effective Date:
		April 1, 2011

