

# Daily Blood Work Orders

*Effective: June 3 2019*

## Site Applicability

PHC Acute Care sites

## Practice Level

NP, RN, RPN, LPN

Unit Coordinators

Physicians

## Policy Statement

Orders for “daily” bloodwork (including pre-printed orders) will only be processed for three consecutive days/72 hours. Orders for future bloodwork will be processed if specific non-consecutive dates are indicated.

## Need to Know

On a clinical review of “daily bloodwork orders” it was found that many patients were continuing to have routine blood drawn and tested despite no provider reviewing the results. A decision was made to limit “daily” bloodwork to three consecutive days. If there is a clinical need, the test can be reordered. If no issues are identified, further routine testing is not required.

## Guideline

### Steps

1. Orders for bloodwork should specify particular dates (e.g. Jan 1 and 2)
2. Only the first three days/72 hours of orders for consecutive days of bloodwork will be processed (i.e. if bloodwork is ordered “daily” or “daily x7”, only the first three days/72 hours of orders will be entered).
3. Orders can be placed further into the future if specific, non-consecutive dates are specified (e.g. Jan 1 and 5)
4. Existing order sets with bloodwork ordered “daily” will be treated the same as a written “daily” order - entered only three days/ 72 hours into the future
5. There are two specific exceptions to the above:
  - a. PTT and CBC orders while a patient is on IV heparin.
  - b. Monday and Thursday TPN bloodwork while a patient is on TPN.

In both of the above cases, the bloodwork orders shall cease once the therapy (heparin/TPN) ceases, unless specifically reordered as in 1 to 4 above.

## Evaluation

A quality improvement working group will monitor the impact of this guideline. Areas assessed will include patient safety, test order volumes, cost savings, and patient and provider experience.

### Persons, Committees and Groups Consulted:

Corporate Director Quality, Patient Safety and Risk Management

UC Education Coordinator

Medical Advisory Committee

### Developed By:

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Quality Improvement Specialist

<b>Effective Date:</b>	03-JUN-2019
<b>Posted Date:</b>	14-MAY-2019
<b>Last Revised:</b>	
<b>Last Reviewed:</b>	
<b>Approved By:</b>	PHC
	Professional Practice Standards Committee
<b>Owners:</b>	PHC
	Laboratory