
POINT OF CARE SERVICES

Role of the Department of Laboratory Medicine

Point of Care POC services refers to any patient testing performed within NUH and our offsite locations, but not performed within the central laboratory. We offer a menu of tests where significant benefits to patient management can be achieved when results are made available at the bedside. The menu includes blood gases and electrolytes, glucose, PT/INR, glycated haemoglobin, haemoglobin, creatinine, urine dipsticks, and urine pregnancy test.

NUH has nominated a POC Committee, whose Chairperson is the Director of Laboratory Medicine, to have oversight of POC services within the institution. Our POC coordinators take the direction set by our POC Chairperson in providing the oversight for the hospital for all instruments, in terms of quality control, quality assurance compliance, training, competency of users, selection, validation and implementation of all equipment and ensuring all regulatory and accreditation requirements are met. They also manage requests for new, expansion or relocation of POC services.

In NUH, most of the POC instruments are electronically linked to EMR to allow results to be reviewed at patient's bedside as well as remotely. A full audit trail is available to determine who performed the test and on which patient. All processes require the capture of both the user's and patient's barcode identification. The electronic link also allows continuous remote monitoring of QC and maintenance of all equipment. We also have an electronic solution for managing all staff training and competency testing, both written and practical, to ensure that all regulatory requirements are met and that users are provided with continuous access to equipment.

For enquiries regarding POC services, please contact:

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