



ICD-10 Implementation Delayed

On March 31st, the US Senate voted to approve a bill that delays the implementation of ICD-10 at least a year, and President Obama signed it the following day. The bill, H.R. 4302, is mainly a temporary fix for the Medicare sustainable growth rate (SGR). But a seven-line section of the bill was added regarding the ICD-10 delay.

Community physicians are advised to continue their own in-office education about ICD-10 and to ask their EMR vendors about when data exchanges and interfaces will be ICD-10 ready. Community physicians on medical staff can access ICD-10 education modules for their office personnel through Community Practice Services. This web-based education is available at no charge and is eligible for CME credit. Interested practices should contact Beth Bailey at Community Practice Services, 513-636-5239.



Lockboxes in Summer

Heat extremes occurring in summer are a significant concern for specimen integrity. Specimens hemolyze in extreme heat and clinically significant microbes may be destroyed in extreme conditions.

To alleviate these concerns the laboratory suggests the following:

- Lockboxes should be stored away from direct sunlight
- In the heat of summer, a cold pack should be included in the lockbox (please do not place the specimens directly on ice pack)
- Do not put specimens in lockbox until the office is ready to close or the call for a courier has been made

Cincinnati Children's Clinical Laboratories endeavors to pick up all specimens in the most expedient manner.

Stool Culture Complete in 12 Hours

The Diagnostic Infectious Diseases Testing Laboratory (DIDTL) needs help examining the question, “does a 12 hour turn-around-time (TAT) for stool culture have a significant impact on patient care?”

DIDTL has completed a multi-centered study of a PCR based method for the detection of pathogenic bacteria in stool samples and is looking for participants to help study the real world application of a 12 hour stool culture.

If you are interested please contact:

Dr. Joel Mortensen PhD 513-636-5310

Abstracts are available

Updated Cincinnati Children's Clinical Laboratories Website

The refresh of the Clinical Laboratory website is now live!

The website can be accessed by going to

www.cincinnatichildrens.org/labs.

Items you'll now notice:

- Easier access to online supply ordering
- Separate navigations for healthcare professionals and patient/families
- Meet the laboratory team
- Updated Clinical Lab Index
- Laboratory locations and hours

Including the updated Outpatient Fairfield Hours!

8 a.m.- 6p.m. Monday through Friday

8 a.m.- 12 p.m. Saturday

Laboratory Contacts

Laboratory Support Services

Available
24 hours a day - 7 days a week

513-636-7355

AskTheLab@cchmc.org

Clinical Director Contacts

Paul Steele, M.D.
Medical Director,
Clinical Laboratories
513-636-4898

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Director,
Diagnostic Infectious Diseases
Testing Laboratories
513-636-5310

Peter Tang, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor,
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513-636-8626

Laboratory Outreach

Shaun Litchholt, MHA
Outreach Program Specialist
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Outpatient Urine Catheterization

Cincinnati Children's continues to offer catheterization services at outpatient locations:

- No appointment necessary
- Order for testing and order for catheterization required
- **MUST CALL PRIOR TO SENDING PATIENT**
(to ensure RN or MA is available)

Where:	When:	
Anderson Outpatient 513-636-6100 Fairfield Outpatient 513-636-6400 Green Township Outpatient 513-803-8268 Mason Outpatient 513-636-6800 Northern Kentucky Outpatient 859-344-5390	Monday – Friday	8:00AM to 4:00PM
Burnet Campus TRC 513-636-4461 Liberty Campus TRC 513-803-9650	Monday – Friday Saturday Sunday	7:00AM to 8:00PM 8:00AM to 3:00PM 10:00AM to 2:00PM
Anderson Urgent Care Burnet Urgent Care Green Township Urgent Care Mason Urgent Care (No call needed to sent patients to Urgent Care) (No Urgent Care charge for this service)	Monday – Friday Saturday Sunday	6:00PM to 11:00PM 12:00PM to 7:00PM 11:00PM to 7:00PM

Coding Tips

When coding an uncertain diagnosis (eg. “suspected,” “rule out,” etc.), it is always best to code the condition to the highest degree of certainty for that encounter or visit, such as symptoms, signs, abnormal test results, or other reason for the visit. Codes that describe symptoms and signs, as opposed to diagnoses, are acceptable when a diagnosis has not yet been established. ICD-9 codes 780.0 – 799.9 contain many, but not all, codes for signs and symptoms. The corresponding ICD-10 codes can be found in the range R50 – R69. Please refer to our monthly ICD-10 newsletter for more detailed information, or call 513-803-8010 if you wish to be added to the mailing list. Happy Coding!

