

TITLE 172 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES REGULATION AND LICENSURE - CREDENTIALING DIVISION REGULATIONS

CHAPTER 30 - REGULATIONS DEFINING AND GOVERNING THE USE OF ROUTINE PROCEDURES BY CHIROPRACTORS

001 Scope. A chiropractic practitioner who accepts a patient for any professional reason has a duty and responsibility to perform an appropriate clinical evaluation on that patient for the purpose of assessing the patient's current health status to identify if the patient is a proper subject for chiropractic care. Such a clinical evaluation may involve diagnostic procedures which aid in arriving at a clinical impression. The diagnostic procedures may include urine and blood analysis.

The role of clinical laboratory diagnosis in chiropractic has evolved since the inception of the profession to where currently, laboratory diagnosis courses are taught at all accredited chiropractic colleges.

The chiropractic practitioner, as a portal of entry health care provider, has the responsibility to perform an appropriate clinical examination for the purpose of assessing a patient's current health status to identify if the patient is a proper subject for chiropractic care. The clinical laboratory can provide useful information when the findings from the clinical examination are insufficient to answer the questions at hand. The decision to order a test is made on the assumption that the results will appreciably reduce the uncertainty surrounding a given clinical question and significantly change the pre-test probability that a disorder is present. Clinical laboratory procedures listed in section 003 of these regulations may be ordered or performed by chiropractors. All clinical laboratory tests ordered or performed shall be in concordance with the premises set forth in section 002 of these regulations.

002 Premises.

002.01 The purpose for using clinical laboratory procedures in chiropractic practice is for diagnosis and potential referral.

002.02 The practitioner should select only those clinical laboratories that meet federal accreditation standards.

002.03 The practitioner who performs office laboratory procedures carries out testing in a manner which meets state and/or federal regulations, and is consistent with quality laboratory practice.

002.04 The practitioner makes sure the patient is adequately prepared for laboratory testing by verifying that the patient understands any special instructions to assure adequate specimens necessary to generate valid laboratory results.

002.05 The practitioner assures that in-office laboratory specimens are appropriately collected and preserved.

002.06 Laboratory procedures may be appropriate when the information available from the history and chiropractic examination is considered insufficient to conclude that the patient's presenting condition(s) can be addressed by chiropractic care.

002.07 The practitioner selects a laboratory test(s) appropriate for the purpose of ruling out a specific condition(s) or confirming a strong clinical suspicion by considering the sensitivity and specificity of the test(s) and estimating the likelihood of the condition(s) based on his or her assessment of the available clinical information.

002.08 The practitioner has an understanding of conventional laboratory reference values in order to appropriately interpret laboratory results.

002.09 The practitioner effectively discusses with the patient the purposes, possible complications, and clinical significance of the results of laboratory studies conducted or ordered.

002.10 Clinical laboratory results are recorded in the patient record.

002.11 The practitioner seeks medical assistance when uncertain about appropriate test selection, patient preparation, and/or interpretation of laboratory results.

002.12 The use of profiles which focus on an organ system and/or health problem in a symptomatic patient can be considered a cost-effective

and efficient procedure for generating appropriate laboratory data to help confirm or rule out a diagnosis or clinical impression.

002.13 Novel or non-conventional applications of established laboratory procedures, e.g., the use of cytotoxic testing for food allergies or Reams testing and interpretation of urine, are not used in chiropractic practice as a substitute for conventional applications of laboratory procedures in the clinical decision-making process.

003 Routine Clinical Laboratory Procedures. For the purpose of these regulations, routine clinical laboratory procedures appropriate for chiropractic practice which may be ordered and/or performed by chiropractors shall include the following:

- 003.01 Routine Urinalysis
- 003.02 Complete Blood Count with or without differential
- 003.03 Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate
- 003.04 Biochemical Profiles including tests listed in this section
- 003.05 Blood Glucose
- 003.06 Serum Urea Nitrogen and Creatinine
- 003.07 Serum Calcium
- 003.08 Serum Inorganic Phosphorus
- 003.09 Serum Total Protein and Albumin
- 003.10 Serum Cholesterol
- 003.11 Serum Alkaline Phosphatase
- 003.12 Serum Prostate-Specific Antigen
- 003.13 Serum Aspartate Aminotransferase
- 003.14 Serum Creatine Kinase
- 003.15 Thyroid Screens including T3, T4, and TSH-HS (sTSH)
- 003.16 Serum Uric Acid
- 003.17 Rheumatoid Factor
- 003.18 Anti-Nuclear Antibody Test
- 003.19 HLA-B27 Test
- 003.20 C-Reactive Protein Test
- 003.21 Serum Potassium Test
- 003.22 Serum Sodium Test
- 003.23 Serum Iron and Total Iron-Binding Capacity Test
- 003.24 Fecal Occult Blood Test
- 003.25 Serum Ferritin Test
- 003.26 Triglycerides

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