CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST

Definition
Under supervision, to perform a variety of routine, standardized clinical laboratory testing procedures; to learn to operate various laboratory testing devices and instruments.

Distinguishing Characteristics
This is the entry and first working level of clinical laboratory scientists. Incumbents may be assigned on a rotating basis to various sections of the laboratory.

Typical Tasks:
• Collects specimens from patients;
• Sets up, calibrates, operates, and maintains laboratory instruments and equipment;
• Prepares and maintains proper reagents, controls and standards used in individual test procedures;
• Performs analyses of specimens following standardized procedures and policies;
• Performs various tests including staining specimens; examining them microscopically and reporting findings;
• Maintains adequate records such as: worksheets, logs, inventory lists, QC checklists, and other laboratory records as needed;
• Attends and participates in educational training and events;
• Orients and trains students and new employees;
• Anticipates needs and provides services in a courteous, sensitive, responsive, and efficient manner;
• Performs other related duties as required.

Employment Standards
Possession of a valid Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Bioanalyst, Limited Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Clinical Chemist or Clinical Microbiologist license issued by the State of California, Department of Health Services as appropriate for the area of specialization is required.

Sufficient education, training and experience to demonstrate possession of the following knowledge and abilities.

Knowledge of
• Clinical laboratory principles, procedures, and practices related to microbiological, hematology, immunology, biochemistry, toxicology, and immunohematology;
• Proper safety precautions and procedures utilized in handling all types of laboratory specimens, reagents, chemicals and hazardous waste;
• Use and care of laboratory equipment, instruments, and supplies;
• Normal and abnormal test results;
• Quality control methods and procedures appropriate to a clinical laboratory.

Ability to
• Perform standard clinical laboratory tests, procedures and analyses accurately and with skill;
• Collect specimens from patients with skill, patience and tact;
• Maintain records and prepare technical, factual reports of test results;
• Follow written and oral technical directions;
• Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others;
• Evaluate normal and abnormal test results;
• Orient and train new employees and students.

Revised and retitled (formerly Clinical Laboratory Technologist) – KB
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