SENIOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST

Definition
Under general supervision, to perform complex and difficult laboratory tests within a limited area of a major laboratory section and serve as a team leader over other technologists and ancillary personnel for daily coordination of activities; or to perform a broad variety of tests throughout several units on the night shifts.

Distinguishing Characteristics
This class differs from the next lower class of Senior Clinical Laboratory Scientist I by responsibility of the latter for performance of manual and automated laboratory tests which follow established procedures. The Senior Clinical Laboratory Technologist is a terminal classification, which is alternately staffed with the Senior Clinical Laboratory Scientist I and will terminate when all current incumbents have vacated positions in the class.

Typical Tasks
• Performs difficult and complex tests and procedures;
• Serves as a team leader by coordinating the daily activities of a small group of technologists and ancillary personnel;
• Instructs and answers questions from technologists, technologist trainees and pathology residents on the principles, theory and mechanics of laboratory testing;
• Calibrates test equipment assessing its accuracy and the reproducibility of test results;
• Performs preventive maintenance and emergency repair on equipment;
• Adopts new test procedures for use by the laboratory and instructs laboratory personnel in them;
• Reviews quality control records to determine whether test results are accurate within prescribed limits and makes necessary adjustments;
• Performs routine laboratory tests as required;
• Independently performs a variety of tests ranging in level of complexity from the more routine to the more difficult tests and if assigned to the night shift rotates through all sections of laboratory;
• Records and reports laboratory findings;
• Performs other related duties as required.

Employment Standards
Possession of a valid California Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Bioanalyst, Limited Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Clinical Chemist or Clinical Microbiologist license as appropriate for the area of specialization and generalized clinical laboratory experience which demonstrates the possession and application of the following knowledge and abilities.
Sufficient education, training and experience to demonstrate possession of the following knowledge and abilities.

Knowledge of
• Principles, procedures, practices, terminology and equipment used throughout the laboratory in bacteriology, parasitology, immunology, hematology, coagulation, blood bank and biochemistry;
• Use of laboratory tests in the diagnosis of disease;
• Proper safety precautions and procedures involved in handling specimens, equipment, instruments and supplies.
• Current developments in clinical laboratory techniques, procedures and equipment;
• Quality control methods and procedures.

Ability to
• Perform clinical laboratory tests and procedures with skills and accuracy;
• Develop procedures, norms, and standards for new tests and instruct others in them, collect specimens from patients with skill, patience, and tact;
• Make minor adjustments of equipment and calibrate instruments;
• Maintain records and prepare technical factual reports of test results;
• Issue and follow oral and written directions of a technical nature;
• Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others.

Revised and retitled (formerly Senior Clinical Laboratory Technologist) – KB 04/24/07