All nurses and staff who perform Point of Care Testing must attend an initial training for each test they will perform as part of their daily duties. Examples include: urine dipsticks, urine pregnancy tests, blood glucose, pH nitrazine, ACT, electrolytes. **DO NOT** use someone else’s ID to perform any testing. Do not give out your personal ID to anyone else, either. It is easy to obtain certification for these testing. Contact the Point of Care Coordinator for additional information (1-8008 or 1-8206).

**GLUCOMETER TRAINING**

1. **Reportable Range**
   - 20 – 500 mg/dL
   - Results below 20 mg/dL are reported as <20 mg/dL
   - Results above 500 mg/dL are reported as >500
   - After obtaining results that are below 50 or over 500, glucometer must be docked to order a BSR, draw a sample by venipuncture and send to the Lab to confirm results.

2. **Patient ID**
   - It is the financial number below the barcode on patient’s armband
   - The financial number is a 10 digits number preceded by a letter: A if patient is at the City and M is patient is at Mainland

3. **Quality Control** – for glucometer
   - Must be run every 24 hours.
   - Quality control material is good for 90 days after opening.
   - If you need quality controls, call the laboratory 1-8070 or 2-3470 and they will send you a new set. Please, send the expired ones back to the lab, so they can be used for training.

4. **To look up results**
   - Press Menu
   - Select #1 Data Review
   - Enter your clock # (you can scan the barcode on your badge)
   - Select # 2 Patient by Pat ID or
   - Select #1 to see all performed by you under Patient by Oper ID

5. **Problems**
   - If you are having trouble with the glucometer, either it is telling you that your ID is invalid or not wanting to upload after docking it, try checking the **battery power**. Press Menu, select #2 Review Setup, then #2 System Status. The battery power should be ≥2.5. If it is 2.4 or less, replace the batteries with new ones, dock the glucometer and try entering your ID again.
   - If you are still having problems, contact the Point of Care Office at 1-8008 or 1-8206 or beeper # 525-2613 during day hours, Monday through Friday, to check on your certification status or to help you troubleshoot the glucometer. After hours, leave a message. Bring the malfunctioning glucometer to the lab for a replacement. There should always be a glucometer available in the laboratory to replace damaged ones.
   - If you receive a **System Error** when attempting to use the glucometer, turn it off and wait a few seconds. Turn it back on. If the error persists call the laboratory 1-8070 or 2-3470 for a **glucometer replacement**.
6. Recertification

- During the first year all new users must recertify every six months. You should recertify before your due date to avoid being locked out from the glucometer.
- Recertification is processed through Healthstream. The test will be assigned to you 30 days before you expire. There is a test section that will need to be completed and a direct observation evaluation. You must find someone who performs the same test and that person must be someone whose certification is up to date.

POINT OF CARE TESTING RECERTIFICATION PROCESS

PROCEDURE:

1. Re-certification:
   a. During the first year, all certified users performing point of care testing **must** have their competency assessed every six months. After this first year, they will be recertified annually. Part of this recertification must be assessed by direct observation of patient testing and instrument maintenance or function checks. **It is the user’s responsibility to complete this process.**

   a. A written quiz assigned to you on Healthstream, including a practical portion will be given for recertification.

   b. The following steps must be completed by the user with the assistance of an evaluator in order to obtain recertification.

      1) Direct observation of patient preparation and testing
      2) Direct observation of instrument maintenance and function checks
      3) Testing of patient sample
      4) Monitoring of recording and reporting of results
      5) Evaluation of problem-solving skills

   c. The practical portion of the test may be evaluated and documented by a previously certified staff member whose certification **must** be current, the Point of Care Coordinator or designee.

   b. Any user who scores less than 100% will have to retake the test. For instruments with lockout feature, the user will not be updated until a valid recertification test and competency (direct observation) is completed.

2. Point-of-Care Tests:
   a. The following is a list of the tests that are performed as Point-of-Care:

      1) Blood Glucose (Precision Precision Xceed Pro meter)
      2) Urine Dipstick
      3) Urine Pregnancy
4) Cardiac Markers (Biosite)
5) Blood Gas/Electrolytes / Hematocrit (i-STAT)

6) Pro-thrombin Time/INR (i-STAT)
7) pH Nitrazine (AmnioTest swabs)
8) Total Cholesterol (Accu-chek and Cholestech LDX)
9) HDL Cholesterol (Cholestech LDX)
10) Activated Clotting Time (Hemochron Response)
11) Strep Group A
12) Hemoglobin A1c (Bayer DCA 2000+).