

**§ 493.1299**

**42 CFR Ch. IV (10–1–10 Edition)**

of test methods employed by the laboratory and, as applicable, the performance specifications established or verified as specified in § 493.1253. In addition, information that may affect the interpretation of test results, for example test interferences, must be provided upon request. Pertinent updates on testing information must be provided to clients whenever changes occur that affect the test results or interpretation of test results.

(f) Test results must be released only to authorized persons and, if applicable, the individual responsible for using the test results and the laboratory that initially requested the test.

(g) The laboratory must immediately alert the individual or entity requesting the test and, if applicable, the individual responsible for using the test results when any test result indicates an imminently life-threatening condition, or panic or alert values.

(h) When the laboratory cannot report patient test results within its established time frames, the laboratory must determine, based on the urgency of the patient test(s) requested, the need to notify the appropriate individual(s) of the delayed testing.

(i) If a laboratory refers patient specimens for testing—

(1) The referring laboratory must not revise results or information directly related to the interpretation of results provided by the testing laboratory;

(2) The referring laboratory may permit each testing laboratory to send the test result directly to the authorized person who initially requested the test. The referring laboratory must retain or be able to produce an exact duplicate of each testing laboratory's report; and

(3) The authorized person who orders a test must be notified by the referring laboratory of the name and address of each laboratory location where the test was performed.

(j) All test reports or records of the information on the test reports must be maintained by the laboratory in a manner that permits ready identification and timely accessibility.

(k) When errors in the reported patient test results are detected, the laboratory must do the following:

(1) Promptly notify the authorized person ordering the test and, if applicable, the individual using the test results of reporting errors.

(2) Issue corrected reports promptly to the authorized person ordering the test and, if applicable, the individual using the test results.

(3) Maintain duplicates of the original report, as well as the corrected report.

[68 FR 3703, Jan. 24, 2003; 68 FR 50724, Aug. 22, 2003]

**§ 493.1299 Standard: Postanalytic systems quality assessment.**

(a) The laboratory must establish and follow written policies and procedures for an ongoing mechanism to monitor, assess and, when indicated, correct problems identified in the postanalytic systems specified in § 493.1291.

(b) The postanalytic systems quality assessment must include a review of the effectiveness of corrective actions taken to resolve problems, revision of policies and procedures necessary to prevent recurrence of problems, and discussion of postanalytic systems quality assessment reviews with appropriate staff.

(c) The laboratory must document all postanalytic systems quality assessment activities.

[68 FR 3703, Jan. 24, 2003; 68 FR 50724, Aug. 22, 2003]

**Subpart L [Reserved]**

**Subpart M—Personnel for Nonwaived Testing**

SOURCE: 57 FR 7172, Feb. 28, 1992, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 493.1351 General.**

This subpart consists of the personnel requirements that must be met by laboratories performing moderate complexity testing, PPM procedures, high complexity testing, or any combination of these tests.

[60 FR 20049, Apr. 24, 1995]

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS**

**§ 493.1365**

**LABORATORIES PERFORMING PROVIDER-PERFORMED MICROSCOPY (PPM) PROCEDURES**

SOURCE: 60 FR 20049, Apr. 24, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 493.1353 Scope.**

In accordance with § 493.19(b), the moderate complexity procedures specified as PPM procedures are considered such only when personally performed by a health care provider during a patient visit in the context of a physical examination. PPM procedures are subject to the personnel requirements in §§ 493.1355 through 493.1365.

**§ 493.1355 Condition: Laboratories performing PPM procedures; laboratory director.**

The laboratory must have a director who meets the qualification requirements of § 493.1357 and provides overall management and direction in accordance with § 493.1359.

**§ 493.1357 Standard; laboratory director qualifications.**

The laboratory director must be qualified to manage and direct the laboratory personnel and the performance of PPM procedures as specified in § 493.19(c) and must be eligible to be an operator of a laboratory within the requirements of subpart R of this part.

(a) The laboratory director must possess a current license as a laboratory director issued by the State in which the laboratory is located, if the licensing is required.

(b) The laboratory director must meet one of the following requirements:

(1) Be a physician, as defined in § 493.2.

(2) Be a midlevel practitioner, as defined in § 493.2, authorized by a State to practice independently in the State in which the laboratory is located.

(3) Be a dentist, as defined in § 493.2.

**§ 493.1359 Standard; PPM laboratory director responsibilities.**

The laboratory director is responsible for the overall operation and administration of the laboratory, including the prompt, accurate, and pro-

ficient reporting of test results. The laboratory director must—

(a) Direct no more than five laboratories; and

(b) Ensure that any procedure listed under § 493.19(c)—

(1) Is personally performed by an individual who meets the qualification requirements in § 493.1363; and

(2) Is performed in accordance with applicable requirements in subparts H, J, K, and M of this part.

[57 FR 7172, Feb. 28, 1992, as amended at 68 FR 3713, Jan. 24, 2003; 68 FR 50724, Aug. 22, 2003]

**§ 493.1361 Condition: Laboratories performing PPM procedures; testing personnel.**

The laboratory must have a sufficient number of individuals who meet the qualification requirements of § 493.1363 to perform the functions specified in § 493.1365 for the volume and complexity of testing performed.

**§ 493.1363 Standard: PPM testing personnel qualifications.**

Each individual performing PPM procedures must—

(a) Possess a current license issued by the State in which the laboratory is located if the licensing is required; and

(b) Meet one of the following requirements:

(1) Be a physician, as defined in § 493.2.

(2) Be a midlevel practitioner, as defined in § 493.2, under the supervision of a physician or in independent practice if authorized by the State in which the laboratory is located.

(3) Be a dentist as defined in § 493.2 of this part.

**§ 493.1365 Standard; PPM testing personnel responsibilities.**

The testing personnel are responsible for specimen processing, test performance, and for reporting test results. Any PPM procedure must be—

(a) Personally performed by one of the following practitioners:

(1) A physician during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from a patient of a group medical practice of which the physician is a member or employee.