

University of California, San Francisco-Clinical Laboratory  
at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital  
1001 Potrero Ave, SF, CA 94110  
Barbara Haller, MD, PhD, Laboratory Director

**Point of Care Testing: Creatinine**

**Date:** 3/2/20

**UNIT: Radiology – Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging**



Mark W. Wilson, MD  
Chief of Radiology



Barbara Haller, MD, PhD  
Director, Clinical Laboratory

### **Clinical Indication**

Creatinine testing for patients in Radiology will be done to determine the level of kidney function prior to administration of contrast media in CT or MRI. Technologists and/or nurses certified to perform creatinine testing will test patients receiving CT intravenous contrast media or certain MRI intravenous contrast agents, per Radiology Department protocols.

### **Documentation**

The authorized user who obtains the creatinine value will first obtain a written or electronic order from a radiologist or other licensed provider. After the test is complete, the result will be documented in the patient's medical record using either the electronic medical record (EMR) or the creatinine results sheet.

### **Clinical Action**

- Ordering providers are primarily responsible for laboratory tests to check the patients prior to the CT or MRI exam.
- POC Creatinine testing will be used in the outpatient setting in CT and MRI when a current creatinine value has not been obtained. The rules governing CR requirements are spelled out in Radiology policies.
- If the creatinine value is abnormal, the authorized user will contact the Radiologist to discuss next steps for the patient.