

DATE:	REVISED - 8 June 2026
TO:	All Ordering Providers, Clinicians, and Staff Who Perform Blood Collections
FROM:	Hematology Discipline Council, APL
RE:	Ordering Practice Changes for “CBC and Differential” – REVISED 8 JUNE 2026

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Key Message

- Effective June 24, 2025, A “CBC and Differential” (CBCD) order will be **automatically** converted to a “CBC, No Differential” (CBC) **if a label for CBCD was printed within the calendar day.**
- Print labels for collection only on the day the collection will take place. An exception has been made for Mobile collections.**

Background

- In consultation with our clinical colleagues, this initiative will result in utilization efficiencies as well lab efficiencies /cost savings without impacting patient care.
- Printing a label for collection generates a specimen ID number, which is what the conversion rule observes. This would include status of “Active - in process” or “Completed”. However, “Active - standing” status do not have a specimen ID number so they will not trigger the rule.**

How this will impact you

- A “CBC and Differential” order will not have a differential reported if there has already been a **label for CBC and Differential printed** within the same calendar day.

Action Required

- Adapt processes to only order/collect a single “CBC and Differential” (CBCD) within one calendar day. OR: continue with ordering “CBC and Differential” (CBCD) as per current ordering practice with the understanding that a differential will be reported only once per calendar day.
 - An exception has been made for Anti-Thymocyte Globulin (ATG) medications. If the ATG medication order is active, the “CBC and Differential” order for multiple differentials within 24 hours will be honored.
 - Occasionally, other exceptions may be required; the clinician is required to place orders for “CBC, No Differential” and call the lab to add on a differential after specimen collection.
- Review label to ensure “CBCD” is printed. If only “CBC” is on label and a differential is clinically required, call the lab to add on a differential.**

Effective June 24, 2025

Questions/Concerns

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