

Live. Learn. Hope.

Ascend LabCheck™ Part 1: The Basics



Clinical Education

5/2021



NORTHWEST

Kidney Centers

Learning Objectives



At the end of this presentation, the nurse will be able to:

1. Identify the available resources to use as guides for the workflow.
2. Understand the importance of checking the label and how to properly place on a tube.
3. know the importance and reason on proper order of lab draws.
4. Identify which lab tubes need to be refrigerated and spun.
5. Understand the importance of balancing the centrifuge.

Introduction to Ascend LabCheck™



- Ascend is a *dialysis specific* full-service lab
- Uses smaller amounts of blood for tests
- Samples are sent to California for processing
- Results are posted within 24-36 hours from time of draw

- **NO STAT** blood tests

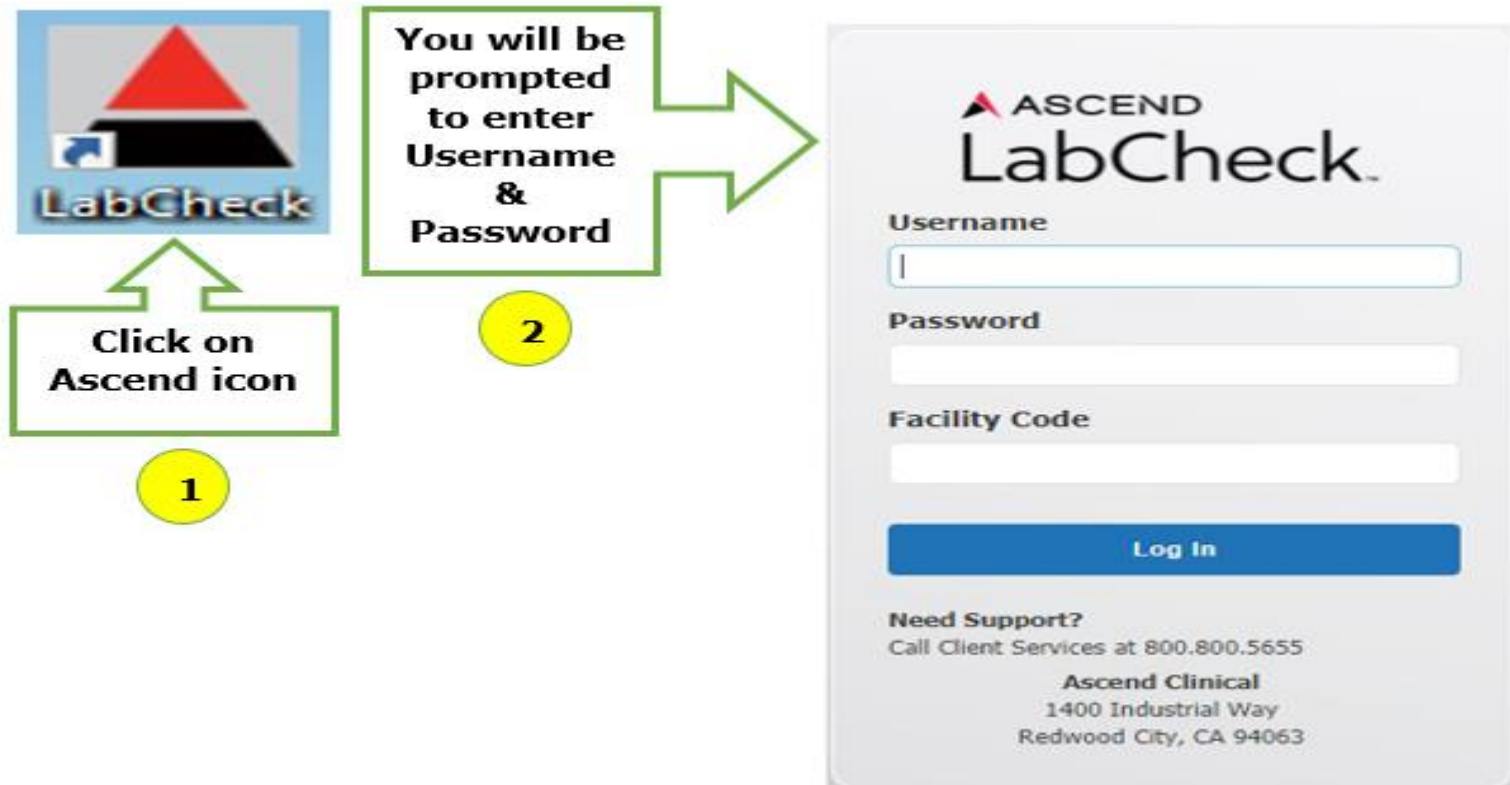
- For patients only

- NKC uses a different lab for employees

How to Use the Online System



- Each pc, including the PCOW, has the Ascend Lab icon



Let's Explore the Main Screen



ASCEND
LabCheck.

Patients

Employees

Environmentals

Reports

Support

Configuration

rr7717 Log Off
[Auburn Kidney Center]



Home

VACCINATED?

Track immune status of patients and staff to help ensure safety and protection.



MONITOR PROTECTIVE IMMUNITY

COVID-19 Antibody Testing Now Available

NON-IMMUNITY



IMMUNITY



ORDER NUMBER

Non-Vaccinated
SARS-CoV-2
Vaccinated
SARS-CoV-2
Combine with
Immunochem
PTH and info
any additor

Nurses should always check the Message Center, especially the "Panics/Criticals/Amended"

Message Center

Support Line:(800)800-5655

Client Services-Option #1

Insurance and Billing Inquires-Option #2

Draw Info Missing: 12 Hemo, 0 Home

ICD/ESRD Corrections: 0 Patients, 0 Employees

Insurance Corrections: 0 Patients, 0 Employees

Order Authentications Missing: 48 Patients, 0 Employees

Panics/Criticals/Amended: 3 Patients

Specimen Discrepancy: 0 Patient, 0 Employee, 0 Environmental

Favorites

Patient Group > Patient Group Edit

Patients > Hemo Labels

Change Facility

Random Urine Chemistry Tests



Effective May 24, 2021, Ascend will offer updated random urine test codes. This improvement will differentiate random urine results from those obtained from 24-hour urine specimens on result reports. The collection tube will remain the same.

[Read More](#)

Memorial Day Holiday Affects Draws and Shipping



In observance of Memorial Day, courier services will be unavailable.

[Read More](#)

You can select another facility if you floated to another clinic or accessing a crossover patient's records

Main Screen Menu - Patients



Home

- Patient List
- Transitional Drug Summary
- Batch Orders
- Hemo Schedule
- Hemo Labels
- HH/PO Labels
- Historical Labels
- Results
- Draw Info Missing
- Patient Group
- Test Result Entry
- Order Authentications Missing

From the
"Patients"
dropdown
menu

Search in the News

THE LANCET

The Washington Post



The New York Times



Message Center

Client Services Phone Support (800)800-5655

Draw Info Missing: 2 Hemo, 0 Home

ICD/ESRD Corrections: 0

Insurance Corrections: 1

Order Authentications Missing: 120

Panics/Criticals/Amended: 0


Specimen Discrepancy: 0 Patient, 0 Employee, 0
Environmental

Main Screen Menu - Support



Patients Employees Environmentals Reports **Support** Configuration

NKAdmin2 Log Off
[Northwest Demo Facility]



- Ascend U
- Communications
- Change Password
- Links
- Supply Order
- Reference Manual
- Contact Us

Ascend COVID-19 Research in the News

Message Center

Client Services Phone Support (800)800-5655

Draw Info Missing: 2 Hemo, 0 Home



ICD/ESRD Corrections: 0

Insurance Corrections: 1


Order Authentications Missing: 120

Panics/Criticals/Amended: 0

Specimen Discrepancy: 0 Patient, 0 Employee, 0 Environmental




THE WALL STREET JOURNAL




USA TODAY


The New York Times



Bloombera



CNN



Main Screen Menu - Support



- **Reference Manual** provides a list of Lab tests & information

Ex: Albumin

Albumin

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#) [24 Hour](#)

Specimen	Plasma
Container Type	Green Top Tube



Stability	7 days
Turnaround Time	1 day
Methodology	Bromocresol Green (BCG)
Reference Range	3.6 - 5.4 g/dL
Transport Temp	Refrigerate 2° - 8° C
CPT Code	82040

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

Quick Reference Guide



Provides step by step instructions on different procedures, especially related to nurse's workflow in using the system

 ASCEND

 ASCEND
LabCheck™

Quick Reference Guide

VERSION 5

REV.2021.04

Some of the Workflow for Nurses



How do you add a new patient to the unit's list?

Patients: Add a New Patient

1. From **Patients** menu, select **Patient List**

2. Click **New Patient**

3. Enter Last Name. Click **Check Existing Patient**

4. If no matching patients are found, click **Create New Patient**

Note: If patient match occurs, follow instructions noted under READMIT A PATIENT OR ADMIT A TRANSFERRED PATIENT to readmit patient.

5. Enter patient's demographic information in all bold face* fields. When complete, click **Next**

6. To add the patient's insurance information, click **Add a New Policy**

Note: Follow instructions noted under ENTER INSURANCE INFORMATION

7. When complete, click **Next**

8. To add the patient hemodialysis schedule, click **New Schedule**

Note: Follow instructions noted under ENTER A PATIENT'S HEMO SCHEDULE.

9. When complete, click **Next**

10. Click **Assignment of Benefits Form**

Note: AOBs are required on all new patients. Please fax completed form to Accounts Receivable.

11. Click **Open**

12. Click 

13. Click **X** in the upper right corner to close the AOB window.

You are now able to select this patient to enter additional demographic, insurance, schedule and order information.

Ascend Standard Work from K-NET



Standard Work:		New Patient: New Admit	
<u>Who:</u> Nurse		<u>Owner:</u> Lab Team	<u>Date Created:</u> 11/9/17
			<u>Revision Date:</u> 10/30/18 LALH
#	Actions / Steps	Key Points	Reasons
1.	Log in to Lab Check		
2.	Select <Patient> drop down		
3.	Select <Patient List>		
4.	Select < New Patient>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter last name 	
5.	Select , <Existing Patient>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow prompts to activate patient Patient active at another facility inactivate the patient at that facility and follow prompts to reactivate 	
6.	Select <Create a New Patient>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the bolded fields First ESRD date needs to be today's date (if patient has never had dialysis) 	
7.	Save		
8.	Assignment of Benefits (AOB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fax these to Ascend Open and Print for new patient packet 	
9.	Schedule patient/Save	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrong entry? Select "Edit" button 	
10.	Orders		
11.	Edit – Primary ICD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N18.6 ESRD 	
12.	Select <Test Set>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select Diabetic or non-Diabetic When Hep C Warning appears (check "Ignore") 	

Ascend Standard Work in K-NET



From the “Clinical” menu, select the “Ascend Standard Work Processes”

Corresponds to the Ascend Quick Reference Manual

Clinical	Ascend Standard Work Processes (Including Lab Corps SW)
› Ascend Lab Portals/Info	Lab Corps - Drawing Blood for HIT
› Ascend Standard Work Processes (Including Lab Corps SW)	Lab Corps: Incase of Needle Stick
› Weekly Scheduling Report	Lab Corps - Ordering Supplies for Lab Corps Tests
› Forms/Consents	CALENDAR - Accessing Monthly Lab Draw
› Home Patient Referrals	CENTRIFUGE - Spinning Tubes Successfully
› Home Program Status Change Forms	COURIER - Lab Pick Up
Hospital Services Application	COURIER - Labeling & Preparing for Pick Up
› Infection Prevention	CRITICAL_PANIC LABS - Acknowledging
› Medical Directors In-services	LABELS - Cancel & Un-Do Lab Request
› Palliative Care	LABELS - For a Cross-Over Patient
› Patient Education	LABELS - Printing In-Center
CIA-POC Application	LABELS - Trouble Shooting
› POC Schedules	MISCELLANEOUS - Disposal of Lab Prep Bags
› Quality	MISCELLANEOUS - Lab Responsibilities at Close of Evening Shift
	MISCELLANEOUS - Reconciling the Active Patient List in Ascend
	NEW PATIENT - AKI Acute Kidney Injury
	NEW PATIENT- Inputting Patient Schedule
	NEW PATIENT - New Admit ←
	NEW PATIENT or VISITOR - ABOS
	ORDERS: Changing the ICD-10 Code (For Aluminum and Others)
	ORDERS - Communicating to Unit Coordinator_ Next Shift
	ORDERS - Entering a Single Order
	ORDERS - Rescheduling Lab Draws
	ORDERS - Rescheduling Lab Tests for a Non-Routine Day
	ORDERS - Scheduling Exception Entries

Page 1 of 2 (39 items) << < [1] 2 > >> All

Review of Lab Draws & Samples



Label Verification

Verify the following information prior to collecting any specimens.



- ✓ Patient's identifiers
- ✓ Draw date
- ✓ Color or type of tube
- ✓ Label is properly placed

A Word Before Lab Draws



ALL Pre-dialysis lab draws are taken from the arterial needle or catheter port

Labs are drawn **prior** to flushing the needle line or catheter tube with Normal Saline

If the arterial needle line or catheter port was inadvertently flushed with NS prior to blood draw, use a 10ml syringe and pull 10 ml of blood and discard, then draw the sample(s)

Order of Draw - Why it Matters?



Intro to Order of Draw

It is critical to follow the defined Order of Draw based upon Ascend's tube types. Some tubes contain additives. If these additives are transferred from one tube to another, contamination may occur and the accuracy of the results may be jeopardized.



BACTEC



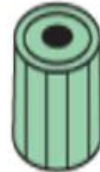
ROYAL BLUE



LIGHT BLUE



RED



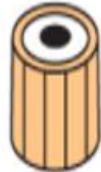
GREEN



TALL GREEN



LAVENDER



GOLD/WHITE

1. Blood Culture Bottles



BACTEC Culture Bottles



Before looking at the actual tubes, let's take a quick look at the Blood and Fluid Culture Bottles.



BACTEC Culture Bottles are drawn before any tubes.

Disinfect tops of bottles with a 70% Alcohol Prep Pad, then collect 10mL aseptically in each bottle.

Do not use any form of iodine to disinfect.

Place in a biohazard transport bag and keep at room temperature.



2. Royal Blue Top Tube



Royal Blue Top



BACTEC



ROYAL BLUE



LIGHT BLUE



RED



GREEN

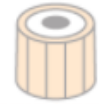


TALL GREEN



LAVENDER

POST



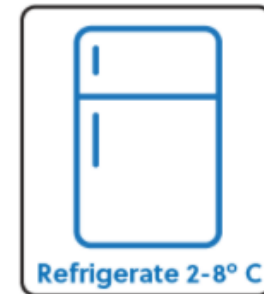
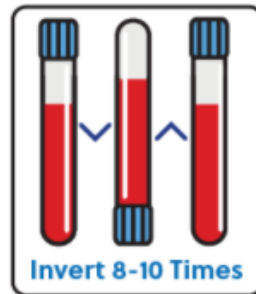
GOLD/WHITE



The Royal Blue top tube is used for testing Aluminum and Zinc.

Invert specimen 8-10 times immediately following the draw.

Place in biohazard transport bag and refrigerate within 2 hours.



3. Light Blue Top



Light Blue Top



BACTEC



ROYAL BLUE



LIGHT BLUE



RED



GREEN

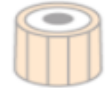


TALL GREEN



LAVENDER

POST



GOLD/WHITE



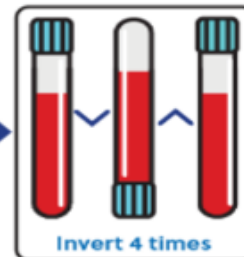
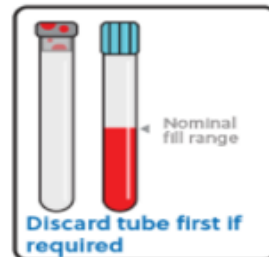
The Light Blue top tube is used for testing Prothrombin Time and may require the use of a red/grey discard tube.

Partially filling a discard tube is only required if the Light Blue top tube is the first tube to be drawn. This will clear all air out of access tubing. Do not ship discard tube.

Hold the Light Blue top tube firmly on the Vacutainer needle the entire time the tube is filling and ensure specimen reaches the nominal fill range.

Invert specimen 4 times immediately following the draw.

Place in biohazard transport bag and keep at room temperature.



4. Red Top



Red Top



BACTEC



ROYAL BLUE



LIGHT BLUE



RED



GREEN



TALL GREEN



LAVENDER

POST



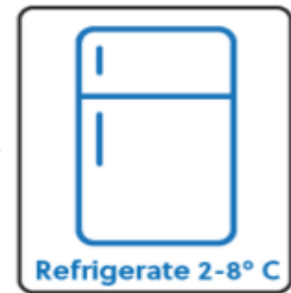
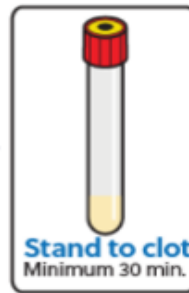
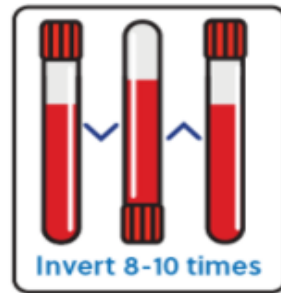
GOLD/WHITE



The Red top tube is used for testing therapeutic drugs and Carnitine.

Invert specimen 8-10 times immediately following the draw, stand to clot for a minimum of 30 minutes, then centrifuge.

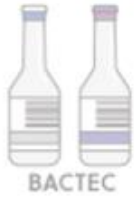
Place in biohazard transport bag and refrigerate within 2 hours.



5. Green Top



Green Top



BACTEC



ROYAL BLUE



LIGHT BLUE



RED



GREEN



TALL GREEN



LAVENDER

POST



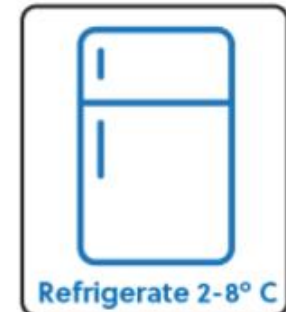
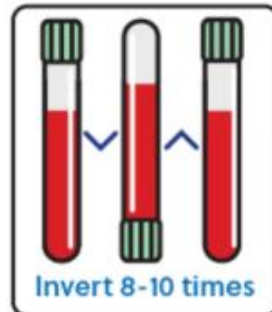
GOLD/WHITE



The 3 mL Green top tube is used for testing routine chemistry and Ionized Calcium.

Invert specimen 8-10 times and centrifuge immediately following the draw.

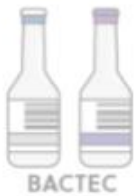
Place in biohazard transport bag and refrigerate within 2 hours.



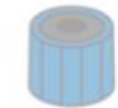
6. Tall Green



Tall Green Top



BACTEC



ROYAL BLUE



LIGHT BLUE



RED



GREEN



TALL GREEN



LAVENDER

POST



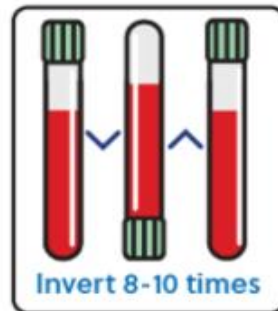
GOLD/WHITE



The 4.5 mL Tall Green top tube is used for testing Hepatitis, HIV, PTH and Ferritin.

Invert specimen 8-10 times and centrifuge immediately following the draw.

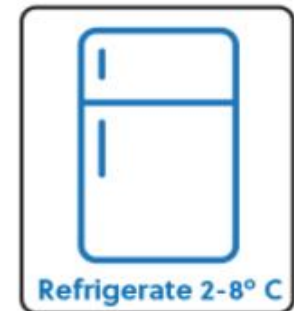
Place in biohazard transport bag and refrigerate within 2 hours.



Invert 8-10 times



Centrifuge
immediately



Refrigerate 2-8° C

7. Lavender Top



Lavender Top



BACTEC



ROYAL BLUE



LIGHT BLUE



RED



GREEN



TALL GREEN



LAVENDER

POST



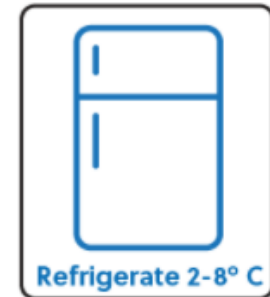
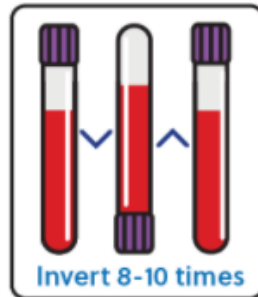
GOLD/WHITE



The Lavender top tube is used for testing Hematology, A1c, Fluid Cell Count and some Reflex testing.

Invert specimen 8-10 times immediately following the draw.

Place in biohazard transport bag and refrigerate within 2 hours.



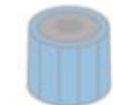
Post: Gold/White Top



POST – Gold/White Top



BACTEC



ROYAL BLUE



LIGHT BLUE



RED



GREEN



TALL GREEN



LAVENDER

POST



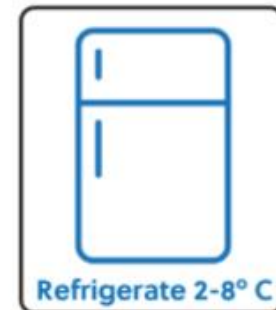
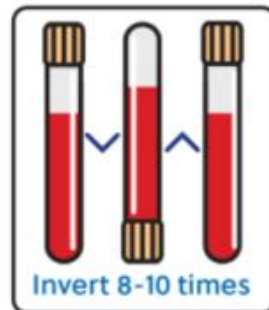
GOLD/WHITE



The Gold/White top tube is used for Post BUN testing.

Invert specimen 8-10 times and centrifuge immediately following the draw.

Place in biohazard transport bag and refrigerate within 2 hours.



Which Tubes are Refrigerated?



Specimen Temperature Requirements

Ascend accepts refrigerated and room temperature specimens. Keeping the specimens at the correct storage temperature helps to insure the stability of the specimen and the accuracy of the results. Refer to Specimen Handling Posters and Reference Manual for specific test temperature requirements.

ROOM TEMPERATURE TUBES



REFRIGERATED TUBES (2-8° C)



Spin Them Like a Record



SPIN



BEFORE YOU SEND



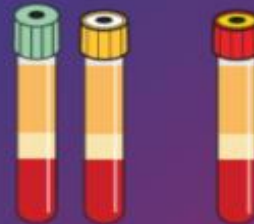
▲ Balance tubes and centrifuge



IMMEDIATELY
AFTER DRAW



AFTER CLOTTING
Within 2 hours
after draw



Properly
Centrifuged

▲ ASCEND

Are You Gel-in?



Tubes Containing Gel

All tubes containing gel must be centrifuged within 2 hours of collection and immediately placed in the refrigerator in preparation for shipping. Green, Tall Green, and Gold/White top tubes can be centrifuged immediately after the draw while Red top tubes require a minimum of 30 minutes to clot before centrifuging.



Centrifuge immediately.



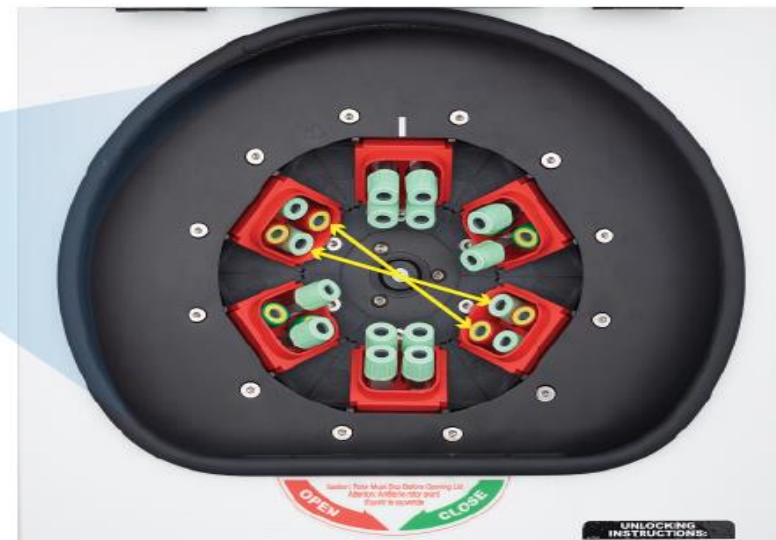
**Stand UPRIGHT for 30 min
before centrifuging.**

Keep 'Em Balanced



Balancing a Drucker 755 – 24 Place

The Drucker 755 – 24 place swing bucket centrifuge will hold up to 24 tubes and must contain a balanced load to work properly. The 755 is designed to detect serious out-of-balance situations and will safely terminate a run if unbalanced.



Balanced Loads

- Opposing tube carriers must be identical.
- Opposing tube carriers must be empty or loaded with an equal number of equally weighted samples.
- If there's an odd number of specimens, use a water-filled balance tube.

Otherwise, you may have a mess to clean up or clotted tubes!

Did you spin them correctly?



Properly Centrifuged Tubes

A properly centrifuged tube will have the plasma or serum separated by a gel barrier from the red blood cells. Ascend cannot process tubes if received unspun or poorly spun. Visually inspect each tube prior to storing in the refrigerator.

Properly Centrifuged



Plasma/Serum
(the clear yellow part)
contains no red blood cells

Gel is firmly wedged
against sides separating
plasma from red
blood cells

Red blood cells
are below gel barrier

Always centrifuge before
refrigerating



UnSpun or Poorly Spun = Tests Canceled



Must
Redraw

Unspun

Gel on bottom of tube;
no separation

Not centrifuged
Centrifuge not balanced



Must
Redraw

Unspun Left Standing

Gel on bottom of tube;
no separation

Tube left standing
upright (plasma and cells
separated and gel
remains at the bottom)



Must
Redraw

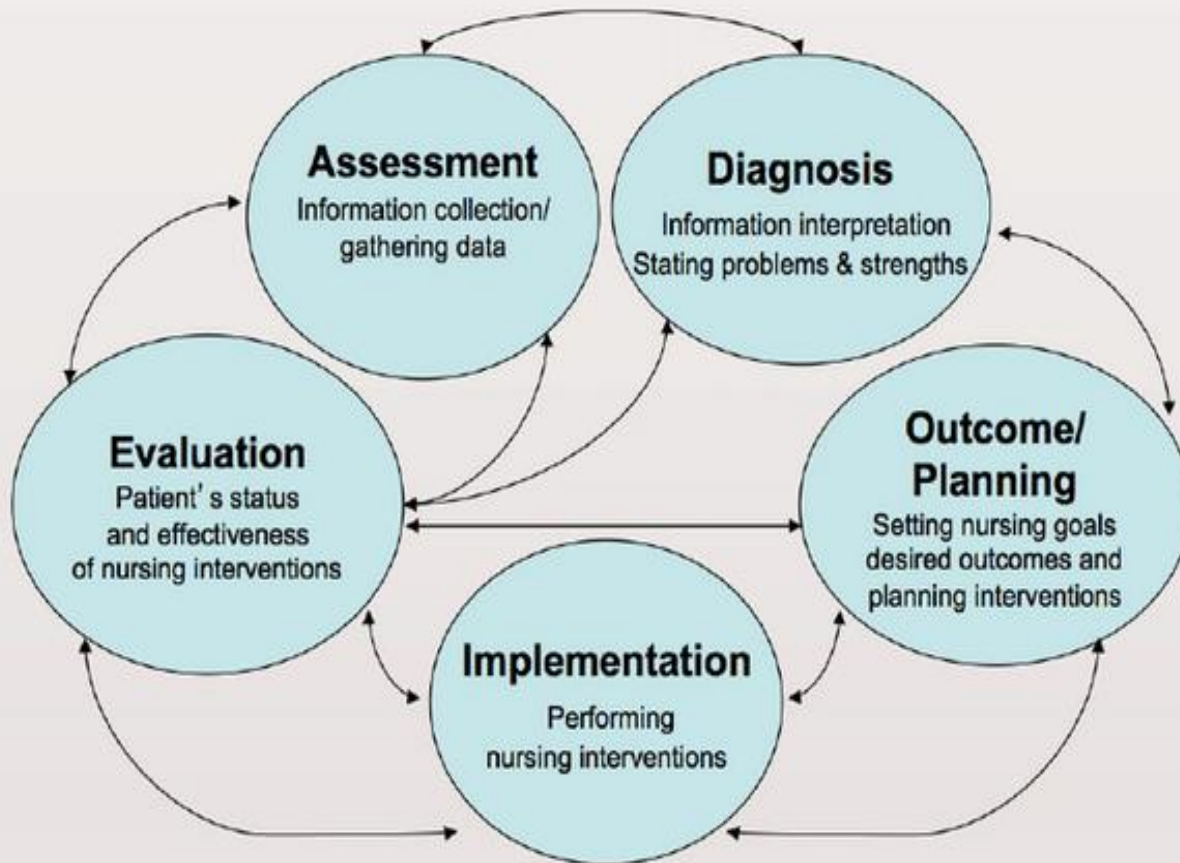
Poorly Spun

Plasma/Serum is pink
or red; there is no
complete gel barrier

Not centrifuged long enough
Not centrifuged at
correct speed
Centrifuge not balanced



Remember The Nursing Process!



The steps of the nursing process are interrelated, forming a continuous circle of thought and action that is both dynamic and cyclic (Doenges & Moorhouse, 2008 a+b)

References



- *Ascend (1)* . (2021). Retrieved from Ascend University:
<https://ascend-u.aclab.com/>
- *Ascend (2)*. (2021). Retrieved from Ascend LabCheck:
<https://labcheck5.com/app/>
- *Ascend (3)*, 5. (2021, April). Retrieved from Ascend LabCheck Quick Reference Guide: http://referencemanual.aclab.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/LabCheck_QRG_NewFormat_421.pdf
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- *K-NET*. (2021). Retrieved from Ascend Standard Work Processes:
<https://knet.nwkidney.org/intra/ascendstandardworkprocessesincludinglabcorpssw/1510064235055>

Questions



Questions are the path to learning