

Point of Care Blood Labs

IN 8 MINUTES OR LESS

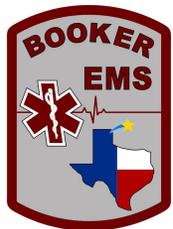


Evidence Based??

What percentage of your transports will get these at the ED?

Military use and studies over many years in various austere environments

We are beginning to develop EMS evidence in certain populations



Clinical Data

Waived Test: Chem 8+ Cartridge

- Sodium, Potassium, Calcium, Chloride
- Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN), Creatinine
- Hemoglobin and Hematocrit
- Glucose
- TCO₂

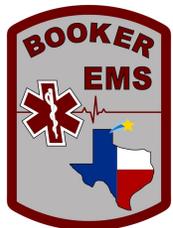
Moderately Complex Tests:

CG4 – Blood Gases

- pH
- PCO₂
- PO₂
- HCO₃
- Lactate
- Base Excess

cTnI – Troponin I

- Troponin I (quantified)



Regulation

CLIA

- Part of the FDA
- All Ambulance providers should hold CLIA “Waiver” certificate if performing glucometer tests in the field

4 levels of Certification with CLIA

- Only Waived and Moderate Complexity apply to Point of Care testing

Waived Testing

- Generally indicates the testing can be done safely and with minimal risk of adverse affects by patient themselves with training from a healthcare professional

Moderate Complexity Testing

- Adds a great deal of regulatory requirements!



Abbott iStat

Abbott's iStat is the most common point of care testing system, and has the widest range of available tests, as well as decades of use.



Why should we do this?

Out of Hospital Mindset vs. Prehospital

Immediate, valuable clinical data that otherwise must be assessed indirectly, or not at all

Better data allows for better clinical decision; as long as clinicians have the ability to understand and discern the data!

Is this evidence based medicine?

Yes! But the evidence is lacking in our industry as opposed to hospitals.

There is good reason why most of our patients have blood labs drawn when they are seen in the ED. For many of us that have longer transports, why should some of those critical labs be delayed?



Financial Aspect

What's the cost?

- Expect about \$15,000 per unit as an initial start up investment.
- Ongoing supplies include cartridges (single use) and quality control

Can you bill for these labs?

- Yes, but....
- You will likely need a new NPI and Medicare Authorization and a billing specialist familiar with lab procedure codes
- We hope to have a presentation next year once we have enough data to present an analysis of our lab billing

