



Phlebotomy Services for Research Blood Draws

UNC Medical Center has phlebotomy services that are readily available for all IRB-approved research studies.

When a research participant needs blood drawn for the purposes of a research study, one option is to bring them to a phlebotomy station to have the samples collected (this includes clinical labs and tubes of blood for research purposes only).

There is a minimal cost to use the phlebotomy services to perform the “research” blood draw; and this cost is passed on to the research study. To use the UNC Medical Center phlebotomy services, a research participant must be a registered patient with a medical record number at UNC Health Care.



PROCESS TO UTILIZE PHLEBOTOMY SERVICES

1. Check the research participant in via Epic at the clinic where they are seen for their research visit.
2. Place orders in Epic and have them signed and released by a licensed medical professional. Orders include, as appropriate, phlebotomy-research draw (code: Lab8243), clinical lab tests, and research labs.
3. Accompany the research participant to the nearest central registration area to get a Lab Walk-In appointment scheduled and checked-in for the phlebotomy station. This is a necessary step at UNC Hospitals, and is the same process used on the non-research side; however, there are some exceptions to this step if you are in an off-site UNC clinic or the CTRC. Please check with the phlebotomy station in those clinics for their requirements. The study coordinator will need to tell registration that the blood draw is for a research study.
4. Send the research participant to the nearest phlebotomy station. A study coordinator should accompany the participant to the phlebotomy station. If this is not possible, the participant can be provided with a slip of paper that will let the phlebotomist know there are research labs to be collected. The phlebotomist can link the visit to the study, or release the order in a visit already linked. This will help the phlebotomist to find the correct encounter in Epic and know who to contact if they have questions.

Please note that the above description is a simplified version of the process of using the UNC Medical Center Phlebotomy Service. The true process involves some complex steps that are further detailed in the Epic tip sheets and guidance documents referenced below. In order for a research team member to use the phlebotomy services for a research blood draw, they will need to review the Epic tip sheets, the Research Phlebotomy Instruction Sheet and complete the required Epic training.

REFERENCES *Please review all the referenced documents before attempting to use these services.*

- Epic@UNC Quick References:
 - Ordering Imaging and Phlebotomy (guide for coordinators entering Epic orders)
 - Phlebotomy (guide for phlebotomists, finding research linked)
 - Ordering for Research
- Research Phlebotomy at UNC Medical Center Instruction Sheet
- Also see Learning Street Training Materials from the Epic Research Coordinator training courses at: share.unch.unc.edu/sites/etd/Research/Forms/AllItems.aspx

Access referenced documents:

UNC Medical Center employees
SharePoint
news.unchealthcare.org/epic

UNC employees
irbis.research.unc.edu/crms/researchcentral/