(A) Policy Statement
To provide a guideline for obtaining drug levels.

(B) Policy Purpose
Establish criteria for pharmacists to order a drug level or appropriate monitoring laboratory parameter for medications that have a narrow therapeutic window.

(C) Procedure
1. A pharmacist may order a drug level or an appropriate monitoring laboratory if any of the following are met:
   - Compliance in question
   - Change in renal function
   - Clinical deterioration following an initial good response
   - Failure to respond to therapy
   - Acute disease exacerbation
   - Suspected toxicity
   - Start or stop of an interacting medication
   - Concerns with absorption of medication
   - Assure proper conversion from IV to PO or from PO to IV
   - Low albumin
   - Questionable nutritional status
   - Liver disease
   - Recent supra-therapeutic level
   - Recent sub-therapeutic level
   - Electrolyte abnormality
   - Other clinically relevant situation

2. Pharmacist will place order for lab in HEO as an approved protocol under the patient’s admitting physician.

3. Pharmacist will log their activity into pharmacy intervention software and flag for follow up until result is returned.

4. Critical lab results will be paged to the on call pharmacist
   - If Monday to Friday 7am-7pm, on call pharmacist will contact pharmacist covering the patient’s care area.
   - If outside of above time, on call pharmacist will be responsible for patient care follow up.
5. Pharmacist will communicate recommendations verbally to physician.
   • Escalation policy to be followed to communicate verbally to physician.

6. Pharmacist will document recommendations and results of physician conversation in pharmacy intervention software and in the patient electronic or paper chart

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Approved by:

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Review/Revision Completed By: Pharmacy

Date

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It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.