Clinical Laboratory Scientist

Roles

Clinical laboratory scientists are often known as medical laboratory technologists or medical laboratory scientists. In collaboration with medical laboratory technicians, they collect samples and perform tests to analyze body fluids, tissue, and other substances.

Responsibilities

- Analyze body fluids such as blood, urine, and tissue samples to determine normal or abnormal findings
- Collect and study blood samples for use in blood transfusions by identifying the blood group, blood type, and compatibility with other blood types
- Collect and study blood samples for use in hematology by identifying the number of cells, classification of cells, and cell morphology
- Collect and study body fluids such as blood, urine, and tissue samples to determine the growth of pathogenic organisms and the therapeutic agents for treatment
- Collect and study body fluids such as blood and urine to determine the biochemistry of the human body in the normal and abnormal state
- Conduct analysis of body fluids to monitor treatment of diseases by determining therapeutic drug levels
- Operate sophisticated laboratory equipment such as microscopes, cell counters, centrifuges, pipettes, and incubators
- Use automated equipment and computerized instruments capable of performing a number of tests at the same time
- Record a patient’s findings in the medical record
- Discuss results and findings of laboratory tests and procedures with members of the healthcare team
- Provide recommendations for alternative testing that supports an optimal patient outcome
Roles and Responsibilities of Healthcare Professionals

- Conduct quality assurance and monitor quality improvement in the clinical laboratory to ensure accurate, specific, and sensitive medical testing
- Educate members of the healthcare team and the community in areas directly related to diagnostic laboratory testing
- Supervise or train medical laboratory technicians, laboratory assistants, and phlebotomists