TEST: **CBC WITH 5 PART DIFFERENTIAL**

**PRINCIPLE**
This test measures red and white blood cells. The test includes: red blood cell count, hemoglobin, hematocrit, MCV, MCHC, RDW, platelet count, white blood cell count, absolute and relative numbers of neutrophils, lymphocytes, monocytes, eosinophils and basophils.

**SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION:**
Whole blood collected in EDTA (purple top tube) is the only acceptable specimen. The specimen must be kept and transported at room temperature. For best results, the collection tube should be full and no less than half full. Mix the specimen slowly for 2 minutes.

Unacceptable specimens include:
- Any sample not collected in an EDTA tube.
- Any tube less than half full
- Any tube that is not labeled properly
- Hemolyzed specimens
- Specimens older than 48 hours
- Specimens that are clotted

**METHOD:**
VCS Technology, Hemoglobinometry.

**REFERENCES:**
Coulter MAXM, 5C Plus Coulter Cell Control Insert
6. MAXM, Special Procedures and Troubleshooting, 1995

**Normal Range:** See lab report

**Turnaround time:** One Day