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*This protocol is for trained CIP Paramedics only. If during assessment, procedure, or treatment the patient is found to have a medical emergency in need of hospital treatment, the CIP visit will be suspended, and local MCA protocols utilized.*

**Purpose:** Provide guidelines for CIP paramedics to perform advanced point of care testing at patient's side with a CLIA waived device that performs blood analysis. This protocol was designed around the use of the Abbot i-STAT system and Piccolo Xpress system. Always follow manufacturer instructions.

**Aliases:** Handheld blood analyzer, portable clinical analyser, i-STAT, Piccolo

- I. Indications
  - a. Physician's order
  - b. CIP Patient's who require point of care testing to guide treatment.
- II. Contraindications
  - a. Not CLIA waived
- III. Equipment
  - a. CLIA waived point of care testing device with appropriate CLIA waived cartridges for testing. .
  - b. Butterfly needle 20g
  - c. Green top blood tube
  - d. 1cc syringe with 20g needle
- IV. Procedure
  - a. Obtain venous blood sample with butterfly needle and place in a green top tube
  - b. Roll tube back and forth at least 5 (five) times
  - c. Using 1cc syringe with a 20g needle, withdraw 1cc of blood from the green top tube
  - d. Expel 2 drops of blood prior to filling the I-STAT chamber
  - e. Remove appropriate cartridge from packaging holding the side of the cartridge only and place cartridge on a flat surface
  - f. Fil cartridge with blood only to the appropriate level as marked on the cartridge
  - g. Close cover over sample well
  - h. Turn on I-STAT and enter operator and patient ID numbers
  - i. Insert cartridge into analyzer (do not remove while 'cartridge locked' message is on).
- V. Documentation **see CIP Documentation protocol**
  - a. Additionally: cartridges utilized and test results