E-Prescribing Controlled Substances (EPCS)  

As of March 27, 2015 all prescriptions, including controlled substances, will need to be e-Prescribed. Efforts have been underway here at Upstate to prepare for this new NYS mandate which requires two distinct identifiers for each provider before the order can be placed electronically. EPIC does have the required capabilities for electronic prescribing of controlled substances. Upstate's IMT team is working with Imprivata as our vendor for the new dual factor authentication element. The role out of this solution will be starting soon in a pilot area, and then expanding to all affected areas. Please read the attached document; additional information will be forthcoming. Contact Mary Ann Gross (464-8861) with any questions.
Procalcitonin

Procalcitonin level increases within 2 to 4 hours in bacterial infection. It is an earlier and more specific biomarker for sepsis than C reactive protein or lactic acid. Procalcitonin level is high in newborns and might also be elevated in medullary thyroid and small lung cancer. Less significant increases are seen in major trauma, surgery, severe burn, prolonged cardiogenic shock and severe hypoperfusion as well as invasive fungal and acute falciparum malaria infections.

Therefore, beginning March 2, 2015, procalcitonin testing will be performed at Upstate’s Core Laboratory. Availability will be 24/7 and the turnaround time is 90 minutes. The test indications are as follows:

✓ Diagnosis, risk stratification and monitoring of sepsis.
✓ Differential diagnosis of bacterial infections vs. viral infections
✓ Monitoring of response to antibacterial therapy.

If you have any questions regarding this testing, please contact Katalin Banki, MD, Director of Core Laboratory at bankik@upstate.edu
Outstanding Physician Comments

Each week we receive written comments from our patients regarding the care we provide within the Hospital. I thought it would be nice for other physicians to begin to see the positive feedback we are receiving. Below are this week’s comments from grateful patients receiving care on the units at Upstate:

8G – “Very pleased with Dr. Vanessa Gibson.”