Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS)

Computerized information management system designed for laboratories

Manages lab data from sample log-in to reporting

Interfaces with analytical instruments

Sorts and organizes data into various report formats

Stores data for future reference and use

To manage

Data

Work flow

Changing business needs/processes

Existing systems and improving where required

Resources

QA/QC

Improve data management in lab to increase lab potential

Enable centralization of information

Support and enhance business processes of the lab

Take advantage of new lab information technology

Provide easy access to data

Track specimens from receipt, processing, testing, reporting to storage

Electronically capture results from lab diagnostic equipment and store with specimen details

Protocols and algorithms for testing and final result determination

Patient focus

Enable determination of patient outcomes

Integrate patient and specimen information

Support patient management and care/treatment

Type of lab

Reference/research/public health

Clinical

Hybrid

Volume of specimens

Types and number of tests

Size of staff/users

Existing system

Determine which areas will be affected

Requirements and expectations

Avoid ‘culture shock’

Fewer transcription errors & faster processing with direct instrument uploads

Real time control of data quality with built in QC criteria

Direct report generation meeting specific client requirements

Direct electronic reporting to clients or direct client access to data