Northern Colorado Additional Resources

Laboratory

Banner’s Northern Colorado Laboratory Services operate under a consolidated laboratory model within the Northern Colorado region and perform the majority of tests onsite at either North Colorado Medical Center or McKee Medical Center. The laboratory partners with Mayo Medical Laboratory for most of the testing that is not performed locally and with Summit Pathology for all anatomical and cytological pathology services.

Other laboratories used for send-out tests, consisting primarily of low-volume esoteric tests, include Colorado University, Prometheus and Colorado Public Health Department.

A provider order is not required for services that are provided to the community at large or for direct access testing (e.g. Lab Health Panel, Wellness health fairs, Cardiac Scoring, screening mammograms).

For questions or more information about Laboratory operations:

* **NCMC:** Jim Grafel, Sr. Operations Manager **(970) 810-6563\**
* **McKee:** Sue Harkness, Director **(970) 820-1960**
* **Or contact:**Matt Hailey, NoCo Director **(970) 810-6023**

NCMC LaboratoryThe NCMC Laboratory is a CAP (College of American Pathology), AABB, CLIA and FDA accredited laboratory..

**McKee Laboratory**McKee Medical Center Laboratory is a CAP (College of American Pathology), CLIA and FDA accredited laboratory.

**Services Provided by Banner Northern Colorado Laboratories:**

* Hematology
* Chemistry
* Transfusion services
* Microbiology
* Point of Care Testing and Toxicology
* Phlebotomy

**Horizon Laboratory,** a collaborative effort between the four Colorado Banner Health hospitals - East Morgan County Hospital, McKee Medical Center, North Colorado Medical Center and Sterling Regional Med Center - provides convenient, multi-specialty laboratory services to Colorado.

Horizon Laboratory has lab draw sites in Greeley, Loveland, Fort Collins, Sterling, Brush and Fort Morgan, Colorado to best serve the local communities.  Horizon Laboratory performs testing for the  Banner Health hospitals in California, Nebraska, Nevada and Wyoming.

Visit [Horizon Laboratory](http://www.horizonlaboratory.com/_Horizon+Laboratory+Home.htm) for lab draw site details and more information, or contact  Sara Van Winkle, Customer Service representative, **(970) 820-6932.**

Specialty Consultations

Consultation is encouraged for those patients whose medical issue is not within the scope of the attending physician.

To help ensure that providers are contacted in a timely manner and information is shared after consultation, the following process is expected:

* Only the attending physician can request a consult.  If a consultant feels other expertise is needed, the consultant can recommend this to the attending physician either through direct communication or by documenting the recommendation in the consultation report or progress notes. A consultant may not order another consultation except in emergent situations. This will improve coordination of care.
* When a consultation is required, the attending physician will place an order and include a telephone number and a preference for texting or phoning for the consultant to contact the attending physician. A nurse or HUC may then contact the consultant with this information. The attending physician may contact the consultant directly at his/her option, but the order for consult should still be entered. The request for consultation is not considered complete until the attending physician and consultant have directly communicated.
* Consultation must be rendered and electronically recorded or dictated within 24 hours of notification.
* In each case, the attending physician is responsible for making sure the consultant is contacted in a timely manner, with appropriate patient information including reason, urgency, and contact information for the attending physician. The attending physician should directly communicate with the consultant whenever possible.
* When the consultation has been performed, the consultant must directly communicate with the attending physician, as well as document the consultation in the Electronic Medical Record.

The Registration office can provide all surgeon and physician contact phone numbers:

* NCMC: **(970) 810-6895**
* McKee: **(970) 820-4136**

# Technology on Campus

In the Northern Colorado area you will have access to some of the most advanced equipment and resources available including:

**Electronic Medical Record:** Banner Health has implemented one of the most advanced and fully integrated electronic medical record systems in the country. Banner physicians have used this technology to significantly lower the mortality rate of sepsis in intensive care patients and to reduce the number of CT scans ordered for patients.

**Positive Patient Identification:** Banner Health uses a positive patient identification process to administer medications. Physician orders are entered into the patient’s electronic medical record. The medication order is validated by a staff pharmacist. The nurse at the bedside verifies the patient’s name and date of birth, then uses a bar code scanner to scan the label on the medication and the label on the coded wrist. This process is designed to ensure the right patient receives the right medication in the right amount at the right time.   
    
**Banner Telehealth**:  A remote monitoring system that provides an advanced and additional layer of care for the hospitalized patients in the Intensive Care Units. Specially-trained clinical staff back up physicians, nurses and other caregivers at the bedside and help monitor ICU patient information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**Robotic surgery**: A dedicated surgical suite at NCMC and MMC is equipped with the daVinci Surgical System, an advanced surgical robot currently used for certain procedures.   
   
**Medical Imaging**: The comprehensive medical imaging equipment at North Colorado Medical Center, McKee Medical Center and at our offsite outpatient imaging facilities, are certified by the American College of Radiology.

**Banner Simulation System**: McKee Medical Center is home to the Banner Western Region Simulation Program. Physicians and nurses train in real life scenarios on computerized mannequins that can talk, pass fluids, and mimic the clinical condition of an actual patient. Afterward, participants hold a debriefing, where they review video of their scenario and discuss how they can improve performance.