ASSESSING PATIENTS FOR
POINT-OF-CARE TESTING

When providing point-of-care testing for patients, remember these 7 points!

- Pharmacists can use lancet-type devices to obtain blood for a patient’s education, self-care, or self-monitoring of his/her chronic disease.

- Point-of-care testing can be done by a registered pharmacy technician, intern, or student under the supervision/direction of a pharmacist.

- Pharmacists must explain the purpose of the testing to the patient or agent and obtain informed consent. Consent cannot be implied.

- Pharmacists cannot make a diagnosis, as this is outside of their scope of practice.

- Pharmacists must follow proper infection control procedures.

- Pharmacists should ensure that the demonstration area is clean, private and comfortable for patients.

- Pharmacists must document the patient’s name, address, consent, results, date, and who performed the procedure.

http://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/91p36