



CAP's Competency Assessment Program and LAP Checklist Requirement GEN.55500

The chart below is an assessment of how the CAP's Competency Assessment Program can be used to satisfy the elements of competency included in Laboratory General Checklist requirement GEN.55500 and the CLIA regulations. For each element of competency, we have attempted to explain how the program can satisfy the element using two scenarios: with no manipulation by the laboratory (i.e., without using the CourseBuilder or ChecklistBuilder tools to customize a course/checklist) and with manipulation by the laboratory.

Requirements of GEN.55500	Does the CAP's Competency Assessment Program Satisfy GEN.55500 Requirement With No Manipulation of the Program by the Laboratory?	Does the CAP's Competency Assessment Program Satisfy GEN.55500 Requirement with Manipulation of the Program by the Laboratory?
Direct observations of routine patient test performance, including patient preparation, if applicable, specimen handling, processing and testing	<p>Maybe. This can be achieved through the use of the instrument-specific observation checklists. However, the Competency Assessment Program does not have observation checklists for every available instrument. Also, there are no checklists available for laboratory tests/procedures that are performed manually.</p> <p>Checklists should be reviewed and modified as necessary to meet the laboratory's standard operating procedures (SOPs).</p>	<p>Yes. If an instrument-specific observation checklist does not exist for the instrument used by a laboratory, then the laboratory would use CourseBuilder or ChecklistBuilder, tools to modify CAP-provided courses and checklists. A checklist could also be created to use for observation and tracking. The CourseBuilder and ChecklistBuilder tools can also be used to create observation checklists for manual tests/procedures.</p>
Monitoring the recording and reporting of test results	No.	<p>Yes. This can be achieved through the use of the CourseBuilder or ChecklistBuilder tools. A checklist could be created to use for observation and tracking.</p>
Review of intermediate test results or worksheets, quality control records, proficiency testing results and preventive maintenance records	No.	<p>Yes. This can be achieved through the use of the CourseBuilder or ChecklistBuilder tools. A checklist could be created to use for observation and tracking.</p>
Direct observation of performance of instrument maintenance and function checks	<p>Maybe. This can be achieved through the use of the instrument-specific observation checklists. However, the Competency Assessment Program does not have observation checklists for every available instrument.</p> <p>Checklists should be reviewed and modified as necessary to meet the laboratory's standard operating procedures (SOPs).</p>	<p>Yes. If an instrument-specific observation checklist does not exist for the instrument used by a laboratory, one can be created using the CourseBuilder or ChecklistBuilder tools.</p>
Assessment of test performance through testing previously analyzed specimens, internal blind testing samples or external proficiency testing samples	No.	<p>Yes. This can be achieved through the use of the CourseBuilder or ChecklistBuilder tools. A checklist could be created to use for observation and tracking.</p>
Evaluation of problem-solving skills	<p>Yes. Competency assessments (which include customized training courses) and reassessments can satisfy this requirement.</p>	<p>Yes. If a laboratory requires additional material to assess their employees' competence, the CourseBuilder tool will allow the laboratory to modify a CAP course or create a new course.</p>