

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
POLICY

Subject: Ordering and Interpretation of Lab Tests

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POLICY STATEMENT

The South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA) believes in the establishment of a physician-patient relationship before providing treatment.

Further, the SDSMA affirms that: 1) the ordering of medical services, to include laboratory tests, for patients; and 2) the diagnosis of disease and diagnostic interpretation of a study or studies for a specific patient constitutes the practice of medicine.

The SDSMA believes PhD clinical lab scientists and or other non-physician laboratory personnel work under the supervision of a physician within their applicable scopes of practice to perform a study or studies with the results forming the basis of a diagnostic interpretation by a physician for a patient.

AUTHORITY

South Dakota State Medical Association Council of Physicians, 9/14/2012; Reaffirmed by South Dakota State Medical Association Board of Directors 11/5/2020.