



## A SYSTEM FOR DELIVERING CLINICAL LABORATORY RESULTS BY E-MAIL

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# E-mail technology applied to healtcare industry

- communication between physicians and patients (making appointments, demands for recipes, dissolving acute and chronic problems)
- demands for laboratory tests from indoor and outdoor physicians to the laboratory
- communication between patients and laboratory



## Proofs for necessity of using e-mail communications in health purpose

- CyberAtlas 34 million people a year visit more then 20 000 healthcare-oriented Internet sites
- CyberDialogue 45% consumers interested in contacting their clinicans by email (June 2001)
- LabTest 82% consumers agree to see their lab results by the Internet



### Advantages

- fast, cheap and frequently accessible feature
- for patients:
  - they do not need to wait or to come again to the laboratory for their results
- for physicians:
  - doctors can have patients lab results available as soon as possible
  - results can easily be integrated into patients electronic medical record



### Pilot project

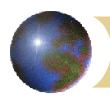
#### idea:

- develop a system for sending results of serum biochemical analyses, urine biochemical and microscopic analyses, and haematological and coagulation analyses to all our outdoors consumers with a valid email address
- started: October 1st, 2001



## Advertising

- all around the hospital were consumers are passing
- particularly on laboratory reception desk
- news papers
- web pages (<u>www.kbd.hr/lab</u>)



## Consumers obligation

#### fill out a form:

	Name and Surname:				
General data	Date of birth:			Phone:	
	Address:				
Results delivery Round up which way you would like your lab results to be sent. Please, write e-mail address EXTREMELY LEGIBLY.		а	to me personally on e-mail address:		
		b	to my physician, dr address:	, on e-mail	
Date:		Signature:			



### Lab report

Name and Surname: Mladen Petrovečki Date of analyses: 30. 10. 2001.

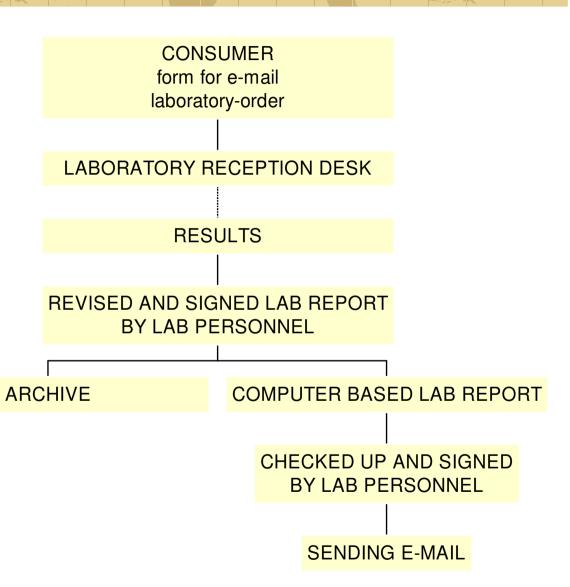
Laboratory report number: 311 E-mail address: mp@kbd.hr

Biochemical ana	lyses	Number of	Number of record: 31733					
Approved by: doc. dr. sc. Željko Romić								
Tests	Units	Sample	Result	Normal range				
Glucose	mmol/L	S	4,1	3,6-5,6				
Amoniac	μmol/L	Р	50	32-57				
Acidum uricum	μmol/L	S	400	M 120-420 F 90-300				
Glycosilated haemoglobin	%	В	5,3	4,6-6,6				

Sample **B**-blood, **P**-plasma, **S**-serum, **U**-urine, **dU**-24 hour urine **M**-male, **F**-female



#### Procedure





## Features for fully safe and secure sending lab results

- results data sent as attachment (PDF)
- lab report saved in standard secure form (allowing the recipient only printing the document)
- return receipt request



#### Results

- in one year time we have 8215 outdoor consumers
  - 100 laboratory results sent (1,22%)
- one exception
- network: two doctors



## Disadvantages

- malicious computer expert can bypass security measure and alter the results of tests
- there could be certain periods of time when Internet access would not be available



#### Plans for the future

- inform the physicians who gravitated to our hospital
- hospital informatisation



