



**RN NOTIFICATION OF MEDICAL LABORATORY TESTING ORDERED BY A
REGISTERED DIETICIAN TO AFFORD THE RN AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASSESS THE
PATIENT**

Effective January 2003

SB 1642, (Soto), Chapter 325, approved by Governor Gray Davis on August 30, 2002, provides for a registered dietician, or other nutritional professional to order medical laboratory tests related to nutritional therapeutic treatments when authorized to do so by a written protocol prepared and approved by the referring physician. In a clinic where there is a **registered nurse**, and in the absence of a referring physician, the registered nurse is to be notified that a medical laboratory test is being ordered and the RN is to be afforded an opportunity to assess the patient. The bill makes it mandatory to include the registered nurse, in the absence of the physician.

During the 2001 legislative year, AB 1444 ("Nutritional Advice" bill), Chapter 628, authorized registered dietitians to order medical laboratory tests without involvement of a registered nurse. AB 1444 also amended Business & Professions Code 2585 and 2586, and amends the Insurance Code, Section 10176.25, relating to nutritional advice.