

Wide range of lab tests in 42 secs now

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New Delhi: Imagine a machine that will process your blood sample for glucose (chemical test) and thyroid levels (Immunoassay test) simultaneously in just 42 seconds. And all of this will happen without the cap of your collection tube taken off, in turn, ensuring 100% sample integrity and reducing biohazard exposure to laboratory staff.

For the first time in India, Max Hospital has installed the state of the art "High Throughput Integrated Platform DxC 880i", which will conduct 1,840 pathology tests in one hour.

Dr Poonam S Das, director of laboratory medicine of Max Healthcare, said sample processing time would now be reduced by almost 40%. In emergency situations, doctors will get chemical and Immunoassay reports in half the time.

Earlier, samples taken from a patient had to be separately tested for various chemical parameters like sodium,

potassium, chloride, bicarbonate, calcium, glucose, albumen, phosphorous and urea. A separate sample would undergo Immunoassay tests like thyroid. This separation was done manually and required the cap of the tube to be opened. This often raised the risk of contamination, evaporation and mislabeling of the samples.

"Now, all that a person has to do is collect the sample in one single tube and put it into the integrated machine. A red knife cuts the top of the cap, a probe enters the tube and takes away the required sample for immunology tests. The tube is sent back into the machine for tests," Dr Das said.

She added, "The DxC 880i is the first high throughput Integrated work cell to be installed in India for combined testing from a single patient tube." She said the machine is capable of performing more than 155 different tests on a single platform covering almost all disease management profiles — offering a large menu for better diagnosis and patient care.