(1) Assuring that all remedial actions are taken whenever test systems deviate from the laboratory’s established performance specifications;

(2) Ensuring that patient test results are not reported until all corrective actions have been taken and the test system is properly functioning;

(3) Providing orientation to all testing personnel;

(4) Annually evaluating and documenting the performance of all testing personnel.

(c) Exception. For individuals qualified under §493.1489(b)(5), who were performing high complexity testing on or before January 19, 1993, the requirements of paragraph (a)(3) of this section are not effective, provided that all high complexity testing performed by the individual in the absence of a general supervisor is reviewed within 24 hours by a general supervisor qualified under §493.1461.

§ 493.1467 Condition: Laboratories performing high complexity testing; cytology general supervisor.

For the subspecialty of cytology, the laboratory must have a general supervisor who meets the qualification requirements of §493.1469 of this subpart, and provides supervision in accordance with §493.1471 of this subpart.

§ 493.1469 Standard: Cytology general supervisor qualifications.

The cytology general supervisor must be qualified to supervise cytology services. The general supervisor in cytology must possess a current license issued by the State in which the laboratory is located, if such licensing is required, and must—

(a) Be qualified as a technical supervisor under §493.1449 (b) or (k); or

(b)(1) Be qualified as a cytotechnologist under §493.1483; and

(2) Have at least 3 years of full-time (2,080 hours per year) experience as a cytotechnologist within the preceding 10 years.

§ 493.1471 Standard: Cytology general supervisor responsibilities.

The technical supervisor of cytology may perform the duties of the cytology general supervisor or delegate the responsibilities to an individual qualified under §493.1469.

(a) The cytology general supervisor is responsible for the day-to-day supervision or oversight of the laboratory operation and personnel performing testing and reporting test results.

(b) The cytology general supervisor must—

(1) Be accessible to provide on-site, telephone, or electronic consultation to resolve technical problems in accordance with policies and procedures established by the technical supervisor of cytology;

(2) Document the slide interpretation results of each gynecologic and nongynecologic cytology case he or she examined or reviewed (as specified under §493.1274(c));

(3) For each 24-hour period, document the total number of slides he or she examined or reviewed in the laboratory as well as the total number of slides examined or reviewed in any other laboratory or for any other employer; and

(4) Document the number of hours spent examining slides in each 24-hour period.

§ 493.1481 Condition: Laboratories performing high complexity testing; cytotechnologist.

For the subspecialty of cytology, the laboratory must have a sufficient number of cytotechnologists who meet the qualifications specified in §493.1483 to perform the functions specified in §493.1485.

§ 493.1483 Standard: Cytotechnologist qualifications.

Each person examining cytology slide preparations must meet the qualifications of §493.1449 (b) or (k), or—

(a) Possess a current license as a cytotechnologist issued by the State in which the laboratory is located, if such licensing is required; and

(b) Meet one of the following requirements: