**INDICATIONS FOR TESTING**
Symptoms of tissue hypoxia (eg, fatigue, weakness, pallor, dizziness, fainting)

**ORDER**
CBC with platelet count and automated differential

Anemia present on CBC (males, Hb <13 g/dL; females, Hb <12 g/dL)

Consider other potential causes of symptoms

**Refer to other potential causes of symptoms**

Classify by RBC indices

- Low MCV (microcytic)
  - Evaluate for microcytic anemia

- Normal MCV (normocytic)
  - ORDER Reticulocytes, Percent and Number
  - Calculate corrected reticulocyte count
  - Elevated corrected reticulocyte count
    - No
      - Evaluate for anemia of inflammation; examine peripheral smear
    - Yes
      - Rule out blood loss and hemolysis

- High MCV (macrocytic)
  - ORDER Reticulocytes, Percent and Number
  - Calculate corrected reticulocyte count
  - Elevated corrected reticulocyte count
    - No
    - Yes
      - Evaluate for megaloblastic anemia (including examination of peripheral blood smear for hypersegmented neutrophils); consider bone marrow examination
      - Rule out blood loss and hemolysis

**Abbreviations**
- Hb    Hemoglobin
- MCV   Mean corpuscular volume
- RBC   Red blood cell