



New Hampshire Health Alert Network

Health.Alert@nh.gov

Status: Actual
Message Type: Alert
Severity: Moderate
Sensitive: Not Sensitive
Message Identifier: NH-HAN 20091021 Blood Lead Testing
Delivery Time: 12 hours
Acknowledgement: No
Originating Agency: NH Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services

DATE: October 21, 2009

TIME: 3:30 PM EDT

TO: Community Health Centers, Daycare Providers, Health Officers, Deputy Health Officers, DHHS Senior Management, DPHS Management Team, DPHS-Investigation Team, DPHS Outbreak Team, Family Planning Programs, Hospital CEOs, Infection Control Practitioners, Infectious Disease Specialists, Laboratory Response Network, Manchester Health Department, Nashua Health Department, NHHA, Nurses, Physicians, Public Health Network, Bordering State Epidemiologists

FROM: José T. Montero, MD, Director of the NH Division of Public Health Services

SUBJECT: Blood Lead Testing Discontinued at NH Public Health Laboratories

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS)

The New Hampshire Public Health Laboratories (NPHL) will discontinue the performance of blood lead, erythrocyte protoporphyrin (EP) and zinc protoporphyrin (ZPP) testing on Wednesday October 28, 2009. The last date that samples will be accepted for testing is Monday, October 26, 2009.

Background

The discontinuation of this laboratory testing is a result of budget reductions. Providers in New Hampshire who have not used the services of NPHL for this testing have used reference laboratories such as Quest Diagnostics, LabCorps, Mayo Clinical Laboratory and Specialty Laboratory. Reference laboratories such as these that perform blood lead testing will continue to report all blood lead results for NH residents to the NH Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP). The CLPPP will continue to provide case management services for children with elevated blood lead levels and will continue to be a resource for families, health care providers, and property owners. Please contact the CLPPP at 1-800-852-3345, ext. 4507 or at 603-271-4507 if you have any questions about CLPPP services.

For any questions regarding the contents of this message, please contact NH DHHS Communicable Disease Control and Surveillance Section at 603-271-4496 (after hours 1-800-852-3345 ext.5300).

DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ALERTING VOCABULARY

Message Type

Alert: Indicates an original alert
Update: Indicates prior alert has been updated and superseded
Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Status

Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event
Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

Severity

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe: Significant threat to life or property
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

Sensitive

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Identifier: A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert.

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required.

Originating Agency: A guaranteed unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

Alerting Program: The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

You have received this message based upon the information contained within our emergency notification database.

If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would prefer to be used please contact:

Denise M. Krol, MS
NH HAN Coordinator
Denise.Krol@dhhs.state.nh.us

Business Hours 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Tel: 603-271-4596
Fax: 603-271-0545