



Nicholas A. Toumpas
Commissioner

Marcella Jordan Bobinsky
Acting Director

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

29 HAZEN DRIVE, CONCORD, NH 03301-6503
603-271-4612 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 4612
Fax: 603-271-4827 TDD Access: 1-800-735-2964



May 11, 2015

Weekly Pease Perfluorochemical (PFC) Testing Program Update

Community Engagement:

- The City of Portsmouth has established a Community Advisory Board, independent of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). This group will serve to give feedback and recommendations about the PFC blood testing program.
- NH DHHS has a twitter account where we will send out periodic updates along with this weekly update. The NH DHHS Public Information Twitter account is: @NHDHHSPIO.

Testing Process:

- As of Friday May 8, 2015, a total of 461 persons have indicated interest in blood testing for PFCs; this includes 332 adults and 129 children.
- Information packets with questionnaires and consent forms have been mailed to a total of 427 families (multiple people can be in a family). DHHS has received back 311 questionnaires and consent forms as of Friday May 8, 2015.
- Portsmouth Hospital phlebotomy facilities:
 - **Adults** with DHHS issued requisition forms and labels should go to the Portsmouth Regional Hospital blood draw facility on the Pease Tradeport (located at 26 Manchester Square, Portsmouth, NH) to get their blood drawn, Monday – Friday, 7:00 am to 1:00 pm (no appointment necessary).
 - **Children** with DHHS issued requisition forms and labels should go to the Portsmouth Regional Hospital, Jackson Gray Medical Building (located at 330 Borthwick Avenue, 1st floor Suite 112, Portsmouth, NH) to get their blood drawn, Monday – Friday, 7:00 am to 1:00 pm (no appointment necessary).
- As of Friday May 8, 2015, the NH DHHS lab has received 190 blood specimens. The first batches of samples have been sent for testing.
- Given the high demand for testing, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is unable to perform all blood specimen testing at this time.
- NH DHHS is working on finalizing a contract with a second reference laboratory to ensure we can accommodate all requests for testing.
- All testing requests must be received by May 29, 2015 to ensure timely processing and reporting.
- The final date an individual can have their blood drawn for this testing program is June 12, 2015.
- The reporting of individual results is expected to begin by June 15th, but hopefully sooner.

Noteworthy Events and Meetings:

- NH DHHS will be meeting with the Community Advisory Board this week to discuss the testing process and reporting of initial results.

- Please visit the DHHS website for more information and other updates at:
<http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dphs/investigation-pease.htm>

Any persons with questions about the testing program can call the DHHS Public Inquiry line Monday – Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, at 603-271-9461.