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Weekly Pease Perfluorochemical (PFC) Testing Program Update

Community Engagement:

- This is the first of a series of weekly updates which will be posted on the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) website.
- We are working with the Portsmouth City officials and health officer to develop a Community Advisory Board (CAB) which will help give input and feedback about the testing program.
- A message went out to healthcare providers on Friday 4/3/15 notifying them of the testing program and potential questions they might receive from their patients. There were also links to resources and a phone number they could call with any questions.

Testing Process:

- As of Friday 4/3/15, a total of 299 persons have indicated interest in blood testing for PFCs. This includes 204 adults and 95 children.
- Information packets with questionnaires and consent/assent forms have been mailed to a total of 223 families with more being mailed as inquiries come in.
- Portsmouth Hospital phlebotomy facilities at the Pease Tradeport are ready to start testing when participants receive their blood draw requisition form and other instructions after mailing back their questionnaires and consent/assent forms to the NH DHHS.
- Starting on 4/6/15, participants in the testing program who were issued requisition forms can go to the Portsmouth Regional Hospital blood draw facility on the Pease Tradeport (located at 28 Manchester Square, Portsmouth, NH) to get their blood drawn.

Noteworthy Events:

- The NH DHHS hosted a community meeting last week on Tuesday night March 31, 2015 at the Pease Tradeport to discuss the PFC testing program and hear community feedback. Video of this will be posted shortly on the DHHS website 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, 8am–4pm, at 603-271-9461.