



BIOCHEMISTRY AND GENETICS BRANCH
LABORATORY SERVICES, MC-1947
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ATTENTION!

DSHS Austin Laboratory Updates

(August 2012)

Effective August 9, 2012, the Women's Health Laboratory in San Antonio will no longer accept specimens for gonorrhea and chlamydia screening. After this date, submitters should submit specimens for gonorrhea and chlamydia screening to the DSHS Austin Laboratory.

A new laboratory supply form for gonorrhea and chlamydia laboratory supplies will be available from the Container Preparation Group.

Email: ContainerPrepGroup@dshs.state.tx.us

Phone: (512)776-7661 or toll-free 1-888-963-7111, ext. 7661

For additional questions about submission requirements such as collection, supplies, and mailing of gonorrhea and chlamydia specimens, providers can call (512)776-6030 or toll-free 1-888-963-7111, ext. 6030.

As of December 1, 2011:

- Hemoglobin electrophoresis testing is no longer required to be obtained during the THSteps medical checkup. However, if the provider determines the test medically necessary, he/she may request the test and send it to the DSHS Austin Laboratory using the G-1B specimen submission form, or the client may be sent to the laboratory of the provider's choice, using the provider's acute care provider number.
- Point-of-care testing for blood lead screening may be performed at the provider's office. However, for THSteps, if the blood lead screening test is not performed as a point-of-care test at the provider's office, the lead test must be submitted to the DSHS Laboratory. **Note:** The DSHS Austin Laboratory **will not** supply providers with laboratory supplies (specimen collection devices, needles, lancets, etc.) for point-of-care testing performed at the provider's office.