

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES - LABORATORY

Attention Submitters: DSHS Austin Laboratory Power Outage
Beginning **Friday March 13, 2015 at 3:45 pm**

Due to construction in the area, the DSHS Austin Laboratory will experience a scheduled power outage beginning **Friday, March 13, 2015 at 3:45pm**. This power outage will impact the ability to provide test results and other customer service requests via phone until Monday, March 16th.

NEWBORN SCREENING (NBS)

Testing Notices:

- Testing of Newborn Screening specimens will not take place on Saturday, March 14, 2015.
- The Texas Newborn Screening Web Application (Neometrics) may have intermittent availability.
- HL7 submitters will not receive results on Sunday, March 15. Incoming orders will not be affected.
- Availability of Newborn Screening specimen results may be delayed.

Healthcare Provider Reminders:

- DO NOT delay collection or shipment of newborn screening specimens.
- Ship dried specimens within 24 hours. If mail or courier services are unavailable, ship as quickly as possible.
- Use standard after-hours contacts for available assistance and guidance.

CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

Testing Notices:

- The Texas DSHS Results-Web Portal may have intermittent availability.

Healthcare Provider Reminders:

- DO NOT delay collection or shipment of THSteps specimens.

MICROBIOLOGY

Testing Notices:

- Specimens for **Rabies testing** should be shipped via Greyhound Bus or kept cool and held for shipment on Monday 3/16/15. Specimens received after 12 noon on Friday 3/13/15 will be tested on Monday 3/16/15. No weekend or emergency testing will be available.
- Specimens for **drinking water testing** will not be accepted on Friday, March 13th thru Saturday, March 14th. Samples will be accepted starting Monday, March 16th. If you have an immediate need for testing during this time, contact LCRA @ 512-356-6022.

Healthcare Provider Reminders:

- **Mycobacteriology/Mycology Laboratory (TB):** Specimens for AFB Smears and NAA tests for *M. tuberculosis* need to be delivered to the laboratory by 8 AM on Friday, March 13 if results need to be available for the submitter before 4 PM that same day. Expedited test requests need to be telephoned to 512-776-7342.

Questions? Contact the Texas DSHS Laboratory:

Call toll free: 1-888-963-7111 ext. 7318 or for local calls 512-776-7318

Email: LabInfo@dshs.state.tx.us

Or: NewbornScreeningLab@dshs.state.tx.us

Or: ClinicalChemistry@dshs.state.tx.us