



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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August 28, 2012

Dear Colleague,

In December 2011 I informed you that the Laboratory Services Section (LSS) was in the process of revising fees charged for laboratory services. I would like to provide you with an update on our progress in implementing the revised fees and inform you of some changes to the menu of tests that we offer.

Final implementation of the revised laboratory fees will occur once the fee rules are adopted and published in the Texas Register (which serves as the journal of state agency rulemaking for Texas). After adoption, these rulemaking actions are codified into the Texas Administrative Code. **It is anticipated that the new fees will be implemented no later than November 1, 2012.** Additional information regarding changes to existing laboratory forms or processes will be provided to you as we go through the process of implementing the new fees.

Please be advised that effective October 1, 2012 the following laboratory tests will no longer be available from the DSHS Laboratory. These tests are low volume/underutilized and were determined to be: cost prohibitive; not necessary to the mission of supporting core public health; and/or not exclusive to a public health laboratory and readily available to the public from commercial laboratories or other local sources.

Test that will not be offered by DSHS laboratories effective October 1, 2012.

Clinical testing and newborn screening.

- Antibody identification [Red Blood Cell Antigens (other than ABO or Rh(D)]
- Antibody Titer
- Phenylketonuria (PKU) Full Gene Sequencing

Microbiology tests

Tests Performed on Clinical Specimens

- *Aspergillus*
- Complex worm Identification
- Cytomegalovirus (CVM) IgG and IgM.
- Fungal identification
- Fungal panel
- Legionella
- Lyme *Borrelia* IgG/IgM Panel
- Varicella Zoster Virus

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RE: DSHS Laboratory Fees

Non- Clinical Testing

- Bottled Water
- Reagent water suitability
- Water, Fecal (Multiple Tube Fermentation)

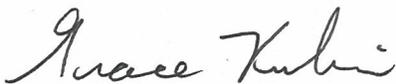
Chemical Analysis of Drinking Water

- Ammonia
- Bromate
- Carbon, Total Organic
- Chloramines
- Chlorine
- Chlorine dioxide
- Chlorite EPA 300.0 method
- Chlorite EPA 300.1 method
- Color
- Dissolved Silica
- Odor
- Total Recoverable Phenolics
- Turbidity

Please be assured that DSHS will continue to provide outstanding public health testing to protect Texas citizens while making efficient use of our limited resources and funding.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Sincerely,



Grace Kubin, Ph.D.

Director, Laboratory Services Section