

IMPORTANT NOTICE for THSteps Medical Providers Regarding DSHS Laboratory Specimen Collection & Shipping Supplies

The DSHS Laboratory provides supplies for specimen collection and mailing and shipping to enrolled THSteps medical providers that submit specimens to the DSHS Laboratory. These services and supplies are limited to THSteps medical checkup laboratory services provided in the course of a medical checkup to THSteps clients. Unauthorized use of services and supplies is a violation of federal regulations.

(Reference: Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual: Vol. 2 - April 2015, Section 5.3.11.6 Laboratory Test)

THSteps providers should:

- Use the supplies provided by the DSHS Laboratory for THSteps medical checkups ONLY and for those tests that will be submitted to the DSHS Laboratory for testing.
- Keep the supplies from the DSHS Laboratory separate from all other specimen collection and shipping supplies.
- Determine and order a 2-month usage for supplies from the DSHS Laboratory, as stated on the [Order Form for Child Health Lab Supplies](#) (G-399).
- NOT use DSHS Laboratory supplies for:
 - Point-of-care testing for Lead screening
 - Point-of-care testing for Hemoglobin screening
 - Testing that is sent to a laboratory other than DSHS
 - Collection of newborn screening specimens by heelstick

The DSHS Laboratory continues to:

- Evaluate, upon receipt, all orders for supplies to determine if the amount and type of supplies being requested match the submission history.
- Reject supply orders if no submission history is found for the submitter number provided on the [Order Form for Child Health Lab Supplies](#) (G-399).
- Adjust supply orders if the submission history indicates that more supplies are being ordered than what has been submitted to the DSHS Laboratory for testing.

For questions or comments, email ClinicalChemistry@dshs.state.tx.us.