



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Bureau of Clinical Laboratories, Sharon P. Massingale, Ph.D., HCLD/CC (ABB) Director

November 20, 2020

Volume XX Issue 9

ATTENTION HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Holiday Sample Collection Schedule



The State Laboratory will be closed November 26-27, 2020, December 24-25 2020, and January 1, 2020. Please remember the following concerning the collection and shipping of specimens to the State Laboratory.

- All blood specimens drawn for STD testing on November 25th and December 23rd must be **picked up** by the courier (or shipped) that day to ensure timely refrigeration to avoid unsatisfactory results due to the age of the specimen.
- Urine cultures must be **received** by our Mobile Laboratory by Wednesday, November 25th or Wednesday, December 23rd. This means that no urine cultures should be collected on Wednesday, November 25th. Any urine specimen collected prior to that must be **picked up** by the courier (or shipped) by the previous day. Testing for urine cultures must begin within 48 hours of collection.
- The BCL will not receive specimens on Saturday, November 28, 2020, or Saturday, December 26, 2020.
- For all other specimens, please follow your normal protocols for draw/received times, taking into account that the State Laboratory will be closed on the dates listed above.

Contact Jamie Hodges at 334-290-6130 if you have questions regarding this bulletin.

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