



Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H.
STATE HEALTH OFFICER

April 15, 2024

Dear Laboratory Director:

Subject: Reporting Notifiable Diseases

Pursuant to Alabama law laboratory directors are required to report laboratory test results and submit clinical materials to the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH). This information can be found in Code of Alabama §§ 22-11A-1, 22-11A-2 and Alabama Administrative Code Rule 420-4-1-.04. The requirement for laboratories to submit laboratory reports by electronic means to ADPH became effective in 2014. In addition, ADPH's revised Notifiable Disease Rules, effective April 14, 2024, now includes Appendix II with all reportable laboratory test results and Appendix III includes clinical materials that must be submitted by performing laboratories. A copy of Appendix II and III are attached. The minimum elements that must be reported in Alabama Administrative Code Rule 420-4-1-.04(7) appear below.

Minimum information to be reported. Reports shall include, at a minimum: the name of the disease or health condition; the name, date of birth, sex, ethnicity, race, address, and phone number(s) of the person having said disease or health condition; the date of onset, date of laboratory result, and/or date of diagnosis of said disease or health condition; and name, phone number, and the facility affiliated with the reporter.

The reporting requirement for laboratories under Alabama Administrative Code Rule 420-4-1-.04 (3) specifically states:

Laboratories shall report laboratory test results to the Department by electronic means as specified by the Department within the designated time required by disease category for the corresponding disease/condition not to exceed 24 hours. All reportable laboratory test results for laboratories are listed in Appendix II. In addition to the minimum data elements outlined in 420-4-1-.04(7), laboratories shall report test method, specimen source, specimen collection date, and reference ranges. All HIV viral loads and CD4 counts shall be reported by laboratories regardless of the result.

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Electronic laboratory reports are essential to ADPH receiving timely and accurate information, otherwise subject to transcription and potential interpretation errors by non-laboratorians. The Department will only accept HL7 messages transmitted directly from each laboratory's information management system (LIMS). For more information please email MU.ELR@adph.state.al.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Howard". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "S" and a cursive "Howard".

Sancha O. Howard
General Counsel

Enclosures