

JANUARY 23, 2018



## Montana Laboratory Sentinel

Updates from the MT Laboratory Services Bureau, 800-821-7284, [www.lab.hhs.mt.gov](http://www.lab.hhs.mt.gov)

### MEDICAID CLAIMS REMINDER!

In order for the Montana Public Health Laboratory (MTPHL) to process Medicaid claims in a timely manner, a Medicaid Billing Request Form must be filled out **COMPLETELY**. We are unable to process the claims without all the requested information. Medicaid patients **will not** be removed from your monthly invoices unless the Medicaid Billing Request Form is complete.

Common mistakes include:

- Not providing a patient's full name, gender, date of birth, address, Public Health Lab ID, date of service, and the Patient's unique Medicaid number.
- A parent or guardian's Medicaid number is not allowed. The Medicaid number **must** belong to the actual patient.
- Not providing an ICD diagnosis code from the physician. We **must** have an **ICD diagnosis code** to process the claim.
- Not providing the **first and last name** of the physician **AND** their **NPI number**.

If you have questions about Medicaid claims submission or if you need a copy of the Medicaid Billing Request Form, please contact Dani Lindeman at 406-444-5246.

### COMING SOON!! TEST ORDERS THROUGH COPIA

Over the next several months, the MTPHL is planning to expand the capability of Copia users to include electronic test orders. This will allow laboratories to enter their orders for testing at MTPHL directly into Copia. If your laboratory is interested in participating as a beta-test site for this project, please send a message to Kim Varvel at [kvarvel@mt.gov](mailto:kvarvel@mt.gov)

### HOLOGIC APTIMA MULTITEST SWAB SPECIMEN COLLECTION KIT

We have recently received a couple of questions regarding the new **orange** labelled Aptima Multitest collection swabs. These collection swabs are intended to be used for collection of vaginal swab specimens, rectal swab specimens, throat swab specimens, and penile meatal specimens for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoea* testing. These swabs may also be used to collect lesion specimens for Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) testing.

For collection of endocervical specimens and male urethral swab specimens, please continue to use the Aptima Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit (white label with purple writing). Urine specimens are collected in the yellow labelled Aptima Urine Collection Kit.

## FALSE-POSITIVE INFLUENZA B???

Over the past couple of weeks, MTPHL has noticed several instances where Influenza B positive specimens submitted for further surveillance testing, have not been confirmed as Influenza B by the CDC IVD Flu rRT-PCR Diagnostic Panel. Most of these submissions have been rapid-positive Influenza Bs, and are most likely false-positives, but we have also had a handful of molecular-positive specimens have not confirmed out. So far, we have sent three of these specimens on for further testing. One was identified as a Rhinovirus, one was a Parainfluenza 3, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> specimen was negative for all viruses on the molecular Respiratory Virus Panel.

## MOST WANTED

As part of the Antimicrobial Resistance Laboratory Network, we continue our solicitation for suspect Carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA) isolates, in addition to other isolates of interest meeting the CDC criteria.

We are specifically interested in:

CRE isolates targeted to *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella oxytoca*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Enterobacter* spp., that are resistant to imipenem, meropenem, doripenem, or ertapenem by standard susceptibility testing methods.

Minimum inhibitory concentrations of  $\geq 4$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  for imipenem, meropenem, or doripenem

$\geq 2$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  for ertapenem

For *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*,  $\geq 8$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  for imipenem, meropenem, or Doripenem

Extended spectrum beta-lactamases (ESBL) isolates.

Susceptible to all carbapenems

Resistant to 3<sup>rd</sup> generation cephalosporins

*Candida* isolates, specifically *Candida* spp. that are not *Candida albicans*, from sterile sites or sites deemed clinically significant, or *Candida* isolates that are unable to be further identified.

Courier service is available to many of our sites for transporting these isolates to MTPHL. If you are in an area where courier service is unavailable, please contact Carrie Biskupiak at 406-444-5526 and we can help make other arrangements. Please remember to include a copy of your susceptibility testing results, along with any available travel history.

Thank you to all laboratories that have been actively submitting these isolates. Your participation is greatly appreciated and contributes greatly to the surveillance efforts within our state and across the nation.

