

MEMORANDUM

TO: Health Department Clinicians
FROM: Kara Levinson, PhD, MPH, D(ABMM)
Laboratory Director
DATE: December 9, 2022
SUBJECT: Discontinuation of CT/GC & Trichomonas testing for individuals <14yrs

NOTICE: DISCONTINUATION OF CHLAMYDIA/GONORRHEA AND TRICHOMONAS TESTING FOR INDIVIDUALS <14 YEARS

Based on recommendations from a recent CMS/CLIA inspection, the Tennessee Department of Health-Division of Laboratory Services (DLS) is modifying the age requirement for Chlamydia trachomatis/Neisseria gonorrhoeae (CT/GC) and Trichomonas testing.

Effective December 12, 2022, DLS will discontinue testing for CT/GC and Trichomonas in individuals <14 years of age. This change is to better align with the manufacturer's performance specifications (Gen Probe/Hologic) and helps ensure the validity of test results in pediatric patient populations.

Starting Monday, specimens received at both Nashville Central and Knoxville Regional Laboratories for CT/GC or Trichomonas testing and are <14years will be reported as "Test Not Performed" and returned to the Health Department via courier.

To continue to meet the needs of this patient population, CHS is recommending that specimens from patients <14 years in which CT/GC or Trichomonas testing is requested be routed to AEL. Please keep in mind, for individuals ≥14 years, Health Departments should continue to send CT/GC and Trichomonas samples to DLS for testing.

For questions regarding this change, please contact Dr. Kara Levinson (615-262-6303, kara.levinson@tn.gov).



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