April 6, 2020

MEMO RE: HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CARE FACILITY TESTING VIA PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

The Department of Public Health is increasingly requiring its local public health laboratory capacity to rapidly respond to high-acuity outbreaks in the community.

Hospitals and health care providers are encouraged to use outside laboratories for COVID-19 testing wherever possible and feasible to maintain public health laboratory capacity.

While the Public Health Laboratory will still accept specimens from clinically-appropriate hospital and clinic patients, facilities are advised that outside testing requests of the PHL may be suspended, delayed or refused without warning if test kit capacity is below the reserve needed for rapid response activities.

Attentively,

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