



# Oregon State Public Health Laboratory

## TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Oregon State Public Health Laboratory

**To:** All submitters of specimens for Rule Out Swine Flu Testing  
**From:** Michael R. Skeels, PhD, MPH, Director, Oregon State Public Health Laboratory  
**Date:** 7/10/2009  
**Re:** Changes in Reporting of Influenza Test Results

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Novel H1N1 infection is now common in Oregon, the severity of illness caused by the infection appears comparable to seasonal influenza and reporting of individual cases of novel H1N1 infection is no longer required. Therefore, **as of July 13, 2009 the OSPHL will revise the previous reporting guidelines listed in the May 5, 2009 Technical Bulletin as follows:**

**The typical turnaround time for test results will revert to 72 hours from time of receipt for specimens submitted for novel H1N1 testing.** The lab will run specific specimens on an expedited basis if the Local Health Department and the Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention and Epidemiology Program agree that it is necessary.

**Notification of specimens positive for novel H1N1 will be made to the submitter of the specimen by phone or fax.** A hard copy of all results (positive and negative) will be sent through the mail.

**The first positive novel H1N1 result for a county will be reported by phone or fax.** All subsequent positives will be reported to that county using the existing electronic laboratory system (ELR).

**Notification of specimens positive for novel H1N1 for counties that already have positives will be made to the patient's county of residence through the ELR system.** This system reports every 24 hours.

All results will still be available within two hours of release on WebRAD. Results are uploaded into this system every two hours so there may be a slight delay depending on when the result is entered and when the upload occurs. Due to HIPAA constraints, you will only be able to view those records submitted with your submitter code.

If you would like access to WebRAD, you can visit the OSPHL website at

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Location: 3150 NW 229<sup>th</sup> Ave, Ste 100  
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Laboratory Director





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<http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/phl/docs/guide.pdf> and click on "Web Access to Test Results" for the forms and instructions. If you are unable to access the forms on the web, you can call us at 503-693-4100 for assistance.

If a clinician needs results on a specific patient they can call the lab at 503-693-4100 and we can give them a verbal report or take their name and number to fax a report later. We ask that clinicians use this option only when immediate results are necessary for clinical decision making as we have a limited number of staff to respond to phone calls since our resources are being directed primarily toward testing.

Please distribute this information to anyone in your facility who is involved with collection or submission of samples for influenza testing.

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