



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER, 5TH FLOOR
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243

BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

LISA PIERCEY, MD, MBA, FAAP
COMMISSIONER

February 1, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

This letter is to notify you of changes for the 2021 List of Reportable Diseases in Tennessee, effective January 1, 2021. The List and Detailed Laboratory Guidance document are available at <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/reportable-diseases.html>, Important changes in 2021 include:

Healthcare Providers/Facilities Only:

- Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children is now explicitly reportable.
- In the 2020 Commissioner's Letter we notified you that reporting antibiotic use in acute care hospitals through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) will be required beginning in January 1, 2021. This requirement has now been delayed until January 1, 2022 due to the burden of the COVID pandemic on healthcare facilities. As this will require some planning, we are advising hospitals of this in advance to allow adequate preparation. [For more information: <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/hai.html>]
- COVID-19 antibody results are no longer reportable.

Laboratories Only:

- Colistin-resistant gram-negative bacteria are not explicitly reportable but are now contained under the general heading of pan-unsusceptible organisms.
- COVID-19 antibody results are no longer reportable.
- *Please see Detailed Laboratory Guidance for additional changes.*

Please remember all suspected outbreaks, regardless of etiology, are reportable. For any questions please call your local or regional health department (<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/localdepartments.html>), or (615)741-7247. We greatly appreciate your partnership in public health reporting.

Sincerely,



Lisa Piercey, MD, MBA, FAAP
Commissioner