



MEMORANDUM

TO: Health Department Clinicians
FROM: Richard Steece, PhD, D(ABMM) *R. Steece*
Laboratory Director
DATE: July 26, 2021
SUBJECT: HIV and HCV Laboratory Testing Changes

NOTICE: CHANGE IN SPECIMEN COLLECTION DEVICE

Effective **September 12th**, County Health Departments and Metropolitan Health Departments will be changing collection tubes for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) laboratory tests.

Please make note of the new specimen submission guidelines for HIV and HCV testing:

- Local and Metro HDs will change to Serum Separator Tubes (SST) for collection of HIV and HCV
 - No changes on the HD side regarding how orders are placed in PTBMIS
 - Continue to draw one tube per test, affixing the corresponding labels to the tubes
 - Tubes **MUST BE SPUN** at the Health Department
 - **DO NOT** pour off serum once the SST tubes are centrifuged
 - Continue to use regular red top tubes for RPR/TP-PA

For SST supply orders, please fill out the lab supply requisition form (PH-1580A) and email it to DCLAB.supply@tn.gov or fax a request to 615-262-6455.

For questions regarding this change, or to request additional clarification or training, please contact Asimwe Baggett (asimwe.baggett@tn.gov) at 615-262-6375.