March 6, 2020

As commercial laboratories are beginning to perform the testing for COVID-19 and as your facility submits specimens and receives results from these laboratories, this letter is to remind that to maintain compliance with state regulation (902 KAR 2:020 Section 10: “Newly Recognized Infectious Agents, HAI Outbreaks, Emerging Pathogens, and Pathogens of Public Health Importance”- https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/902/002/020.pdf), immediate reporting of positive specimens by telephone to KDPH is required. If you are notified of a lab-positive result, please report the case by phone to the Reportable Disease Section of KDPH at 502-564-3261 and fax a completed EPID-200 Reportable Disease Form to secure fax at 502-696-3803.

The Kentucky State Public Health Laboratory will continue to conduct COVID-19 testing for patients that meet criteria for public health significance as determined by Kentucky Department of Public Health. All requests for state laboratory testing must be approved by KDPH prior to collection of specimens. Call KDPH at 502-564-3261 during regular business hours or 888-973-7678 after hours and on weekends to determine if individuals meet the KDPH criteria, and obtain approval for testing.

We greatly appreciate your continued support and assistance with the 2019-Novel Coronavirus outbreak response throughout Kentucky.

Thank you.

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