



# Coccidioidomycosis Serology Laboratory

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**To:** UC Davis Coccidioidomycosis Serology Laboratory (UCD-CSL) clients  
**Attn: compliance officers**, affected clinical staff, laboratory  
leadership, LIS/EMR/IT staff, and sendout staff

**Subject:** Upcoming CDPH-mandated epidemiology compliance deadline

Greetings to all valued UCD-CSL clients:

On August 22, 2023, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) sent a message advising all California clients of the UC Davis Coccidioidomycosis Serology Laboratory (UCD-CSL) of the reporting mandate for all state reportables, including those for positive *Coccidioides* serologies:

Per [Title 17, California Code of Regulations \(CCR\), Section 2505 - Reportable Conditions: Notification by Laboratories to Public Health](#)), "all test requisitions must include the name, gender, **address**, telephone number, pregnancy status, race, ethnicity and date of birth of the person from whom the specimen was obtained, and the **name**, address, and telephone number of the health care provider for whom such examination or test was performed." In order for the lab to be able to report these required data elements, **it is important for your facility to ensure that this information is completed when filling out UCD CSL requisition forms.**

Due to the recent marked increase in cases of Valley Fever, timely and accurate reporting of demographics is even more essential. In the last few weeks, CDPH has advised UCD-CSL of the urgency of these regulatory requirements and improved client compliance. Regrettably, legal/clinical duties therefore compel more rigorous enforcement of epidemiological reporting.

As a consequence, **effective April 1, 2024**, failure to complete the patient address or telephone number, or to provide the original provider/group/facility name, address, or telephone number, **may result in increased reporting delays for your facility.**

The UCD-CSL is mindful of the potential need to update workflows to accommodate the CDPH reporting mandate. In the short term, we will make our best effort to accept any readily feasible and HIPAA-compliant means for the demographic information to be submitted, whether prior to sample shipment, included with sample shipments, or provided by separate secure electronic messaging.

In particular, the **Physician Connect** portal for UCD-CSL offers a readily implemented solution for electronic data entry, order placement, and result viewing, with improved turn-around time and faster transmission of results. Please inquire at [coccy@ucdavis.edu](mailto:coccy@ucdavis.edu) if your facility is interested in Physician Connect as a solution.

The UCD-CSL also offers the option of a **direct interface** between our LIS/EMR systems and clients. While new requests for direct interfaces cannot be implemented before the deadline described above, the direct interface option provides seamless ordering and reporting without the attendant delays of intermediate processing steps and the most streamlined user experience for clinical and laboratory staff. Again, please inquire at [coccy@ucdavis.edu](mailto:coccy@ucdavis.edu) if your facility is interested in a direct interface.

Both CDPH and UCD-CSL wish for the impact of this enforcement action on clinical operations to be kept to the absolute minimum possible. If any issues are foreseen for your facility, or if you have questions, concerns, or alternative plans for compliance, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss details. Our foremost intent is to provide our clients in California and beyond with the highest quality of diagnostic accuracy and client service, and we are committed to engagement with each of our many clinical partners in coccidioidomycosis surveillance, diagnosis, and treatment.

Sincerely yours,

Allen W. Bryan, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.

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