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Point of Care COVID-19 Laboratory Test Reporting

Reporting of COVID-19 laboratory test results to the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) is mandated by state¹ and federal law². Facilities offering point of care testing are responsible for reporting test results performed by their facility.

Reporting Requirements

Laboratories that perform COVID-19 testing, including facilities offering point of care testing, must meet the following requirements:

- All test results (positive, negative, equivocal, indeterminate) for all test types (PCR, antigen, serology) are reportable.
- Test results must be reported within 24 hours of test finalization.
- Test results must be reported to UDOH for all persons who live in Utah or whose specimen was collected by a Utah facility.
- Test results must be reported electronically (additional information below).
- Required data elements must be reported with test results (additional information below).

How to Report

COVID-19 laboratory test results must be reported electronically. The preferred method for laboratory reporting is direct HL7 messaging to UDOH via sFTP. Because most facilities that offer point of care testing do not have the capacity to generate an HL7 message, UDOH has developed a COVID-19 laboratory reporting portal, where test results can be entered by direct data entry or a direct CSV upload. To initiate reporting to the Utah Department of Health, email edx@utah.gov.

Required Data Elements

A number of data elements are required when reporting to public health. These data elements generally fall into three categories: patient information, diagnostic/ordering provider and facility information, and laboratory information. All required data elements are available through the COVID-19 laboratory reporting portal.

¹Utah Admin. Code R386-702, the Communicable Disease Rule

²Public Law 116-136, § 18115(a), the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act