



**ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Colleen Chawla, Director
Kimi Watkins-Tartt Director

Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention

Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP, Director
Interim Health Officer

Public Health Laboratory
2901 Peralta Oaks Ct, 2nd Floor
Oakland, CA 94605

Mark W. Pandori, PhD, HCLD(ABB), Director
(510) 382-4300
Fax (510) 382-4333

Update
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SELECT AGENT TESTING AND REPORTING For Clinical Laboratories

CCR, Title 17, Section 2505 requires laboratories to report laboratory testing results suggestive of the following diseases of public health importance to the local health department.

Subsection (e)(1) List – Select Agent Bacterial agents

- **Anthrax, human or animal (*B. anthracis*)**
- **Botulism (*Cl. Botulinum toxin*)**
- **Brucellosis, human (*all Brucella spp.*)**
- **Burkholderia pseudomallei and *B. mallei***
- **Plague, human or animal (*Y. pestis*)**
- **Tularemia, human (*F. tularensis*)**

Clinical labs should notify the appropriate Laboratory Response Network (LRN) laboratory when a test request for one of the List (e)(1) Select Agent bacteria is made.

Before lab work is performed on these specimens, refer to the **LRN Sentinel Level A Laboratory Clinical Microbiology Guidelines** at <https://www.asm.org/index.php/guidelines/sentinel-guidelines>. Detailed microbiological information is given for each organism, and the **work-up flowcharts** for each suspect agent should be **strictly adhered to** in order to rule the agent in or out. This minimal lab work should take place only inside a Biosafety Cabinet.

When a preliminary identification of a suspected List (e)(1) Select Agent bacterium is made from a clinical specimen, **work should cease**. **The lab supervisor should contact their LRN Reference Lab for guidance** on confirmatory testing and submission procedures – **prior to shipping the isolate**. Those procedures are as follows:

- **Call: Microbial Diseases Laboratory - High Risk Pathogens Section, (510) 412-3700, and Alameda County Public Health Laboratory, (510) 382-4300**, ask for Supervisor or Director
- **Provide** information on the patient (including history and clinical summary)
- **Provide** results of all lab tests performed on the specimen and isolate

The state Microbial Disease Laboratory (MDL) is the LRN Level B Laboratory for Select Agents. If the suspicion is confirmed by MDL, the referring laboratory will be instructed to ship the isolate **directly** to the state MDL laboratory*. This not only expedites the definitive identification of the organism, but decreases the number of persons potentially exposed to the agent.

*Shipping package must be addressed: ATTN: High Risk Pathogens Section – Microbial Diseases Laboratory, 850 Marina Bay Parkway, Richmond, CA 94804.