

George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Health

Sherlita Amler, M.D.
Commissioner

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Dear Colleagues:

WCDH wanted to make you aware that commercial lab testing for non-variola orthopox for which no DOH approval is required is now available at:

- LabCorp <https://www.labcorp.com/infectious-disease/monkeypox>
- Mayo Clinic <https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/2022/07/11/mayo-clinic-laboratories-launches-monkeypox-test-to-increase-access-availability/>
- Aegis Sciences <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0714-aegis-monkeypox-testing.html>
- Sonic Healthcare <https://www.sonichealthcareusa.com/>
- Quest Diagnostics <https://www.questdiagnostics.com/healthcare-professionals/about-our-tests/infectious-diseases/monkeypox>
- Per NYSDOH, testing also is available through NYU, University of Rochester, and the Mount Sinai Laboratory.

Please contact the respective commercial lab for any questions and follow the respective commercial lab's procedures for specimen collection and handling. There is no need to notify WCDH of patients for whom testing is sent to commercial labs. These labs are required to post both positive and negative test results to the NYS electronic laboratory reporting system.

Because there is currently no other circulating orthopox viruses, positive non-variola orthopox results are considered presumptively positive for and are to be managed as a diagnosis of monkeypox for treatment, PEP etc. All positive specimens from commercial or other public health labs are sent to CDC for confirmatory monkeypox testing.

If you decide to continue requesting testing for your patients through the NYSDOH Wadsworth Public Health Labs,

- WCDH and NYSDOH pre-approval is still required.
- Specimens should be collected and stored appropriately at your facility and until receiving approval from WCDH to ship to NYSDOH Wadsworth Laboratories as per https://health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/zoonoses/monkeypox/docs/2022-07-08_han.pdf

To report and request approval from WCDH

- Please call 914-813-5159 Mon-Fri or 914-813-5000 on weekends or holidays between 8:30 and 4:30 (voicemails can be left off hours) or e-mail your request to DOH-DC@westchestergov.com during the work week.
- Calls to WCDH should only be made by the point of contact designated by your administration for your respective health care facility or practice
- Requests received during non-working hours will be handled on the next day during working hours, 7 days/week.

At this time, NYSDOH/Wadsworth Laboratories is only performing non-variola orthopox testing during the work week.

Any patient on whom specimens are being collected for monkeypox testing should be instructed to self-isolate as per <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/isolation-procedures.html> pending test results and further instructions from the treating provider or WCDH.

Thank you as always for your partnership and assistance.