

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Memorandum

To: Physicians and Health Service Directors, Central Zone

From: Dr. Todd Hatchette, Chief of Service, Central Zone Microbiology
Charles Heinstein, Manager, Central Zone Microbiology

Date: May 6, 2022

Subject: **Restarting of Routine Microbiology Testing for COVID-19**

Effective immediately, the Central Zone microbiology laboratory will resume the remaining services that were suspended during the last surge in COVID-19 testing including:

- vaginal swabs for the assessment of bacterial vaginosis
- fungal culture for skin, hair and nails
- Stool microscopy for parasites on those with an appropriate travel history

All services will return to regular practice with the understanding that turnaround times may be delayed if COVID-19 volumes increase.

We continue to apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the laboratory at 902-473-2120