



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Joe Manchin III  
Governor

Martha Yeager Walker  
Secretary

May 15, 2009

Dear Hospital Laboratory Director,

As mosquito-borne encephalitis season approaches, we would like to remind you of laboratory services available to you **free-of-charge** at the Office of Laboratory Services.

Serum or CSF can be submitted for arbovirus testing with a 2-day turn-around time. All samples will be tested for arboviruses relevant in West Virginia:

- Eastern equine encephalitis;
- LaCrosse encephalitis;
- Saint Louis encephalitis; and
- West Nile virus.

64CSR7 requires submission of a sample to the Office of Laboratory Services for any specimen that tests positive for arbovirus in your laboratory. In 2008, numerous false-positive results were reported from West Nile diagnostic kits used by large commercial referral laboratories.

Arbovirus specimen kit requisition form, collection instructions and submission form can be downloaded from: <http://www.wvdhhr.org/labservices/labs/virology/arbovirus.cfm>

We also offer Lyme (*B. burgdorferi*) testing in human serum. The Lyme submission form is found at:

<http://www.wvdhhr.org/labservices/shared/docs/Micro/Lyme%20Request%20Form.pdf>

We thank you for your time and attention and look forward to working with you this season and many more to come. Please feel free to contact the Office of Laboratory Services at (304) 558-3530 extension 2402 with any questions, concerns or supply needs.

Sincerely,

Andrea Labik, ScD  
Director, Office of Laboratory Services

Loretta E Haddy, PhD  
State Epidemiologist

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