



SUMMER IS HERE

That means the specimen lock box you hang on your outside door at the end of the day will need an additional item with your specimens. That item is an **ice pack!!** Those metal boxes are very convenient when your office is running late or you're wanting to close early, but they tend to heat up. Please review with your staff if the specimen should be refrigerated or room temp. The position of the ice pack, either directly under or next to the specimen will be greatly determined by the heat of the day. You must call our Courier Dispatch when you use the specimen lock box and be sure to write down your confirmation number. You can always wait and call for a special pick up the next morning. Be sure to tell the Dispatcher that the specimen was collected the afternoon prior and needs to go directly to the lab.

UPCOMING HOLIDAY

A reminder that July 4th falls on a Wednesday this year. All Metro Lab locations will be closed to observe the national holiday. We will be open on Tuesday July 3rd and Thursday July 5th with normal hours. Your courier may ask about your office hours for the week on Monday July 2nd so that we can confirm our routes should you take the day before, the day after, or all week off. Be sure to plan ahead by notifying your patients of our hours and when scheduling your nursing home of home draw patients.

EXTENDED CARE

Please note our Extended Care Department phone extensions and fax numbers.

- FAX: 309-762-9112 (paper fax)
- Paperless Fax: 563-324-2012 (must be set up with Metro Lab prior to use)
- Office hours: Monday through Friday 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Closed Saturday and Sunday.
- Phone: 309-762-8555

Pam: ext. 3430

Carla: ext. 3415

Amy: ext. 3340

Kim: ext. 3735

RETIRING PHYSICIANS

If one of your providers is leaving the office, whether retiring or relocating, please notify Metro Lab Client Service so we can cancel any standing orders or central scheduling orders we may have. If another physician in your office will be taking over patient care, we will need a new order and instructions for reporting.

UPDATE ON TESTING

Metro Lab is now testing **Synovial Fluid – Glucose** in-house. **Test code 63053**. We are in the process of validating the Synovial Fluid – Protein. That test code will be 60293. Please wait for an announcement on a Go-Live date for that test.

A reminder about PARATHYROID HORMONE INTACT, SERUM ONLY (PTH). Metro Lab has created a test code to help eliminate double charges that could be incurred by the ordering physician or your patient with regards to PTH testing. Our regular PTH testing includes a calcium as one of the resulting components. When your office orders a PTH along with a Basic Metabolic Panel, Comprehensive Metabolic Panel, or any other panel that would have a calcium in it, a duplicate test may be performed and resulted. To avoid that duplicate test and subsequent charge, please order the following:

- PTH-WHOLE MOLECULE (W/O CALCIUM) TEST CODE 37570
- The PTH with Calcium will always be available.
PTH-WHOLE MOLECULE (INCLUDING CALCIUM) TEST CODE 37550

Beginning July 2, 2018, **Mycoplasma pneumoniae DNA, test code 106460**, is available for testing with the use of a different swab. The packaging culture swab supplied on our order form (Item S-4), stated “BactiSwab”, will now be “**BBL Culture Swab.**” This NEW swab is used for Bacterial Cultures, Strep Antigen, Fungal Cultures, AFB Cultures (sub-optimal) Tissue & Fluid preferred, Wet prep/KOH, GBS culture/PCR, and MRSA cultures.



Old



New

**As always, thank you for your continued support.
We appreciate being your laboratory of choice.**

Metropolitan Medical Laboratory, PLC

Quad Cities Pathologists, LLC

Moline – Davenport – Rock Island – Bettendorf – Silvis – Galesburg

Your Health ~ Your Lab ~ Your Choice



www.MetroMedLab.com