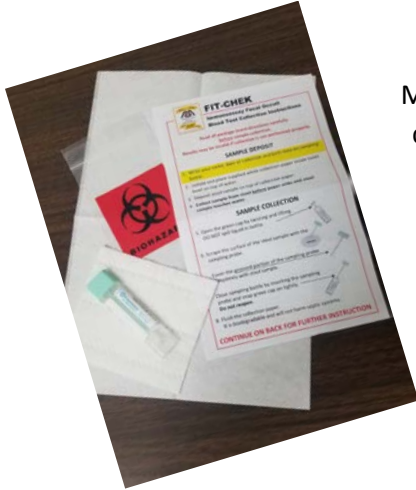




## *FIT CHEK TESTING*

(No longer returned via U.S. Mail)



Metro Lab will begin the process of changing our Fit-Chek packaging with a total conversion date of September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. The testing and methodology will remain the same. Order the kits from the Supply Order Form as usual. Patient instructions will still be included with the new packaging. Please review collection steps with your patient to avoid a rejected specimen. Your patient will return the specimen to one of the seven Metro Lab locations listed on the instruction sheet. Be sure to mention to your patients that the specimen must be returned in the bio-hazard bag provided in the kit with their name, date of collection, and birth date on the sampling bottle.

## *ALLERGY TESTING*

Metro Lab provides 3 allergy profiles for your patients. Please visit our website for a complete list of allergens tested for each profile.

[WWW.MetroMedLab.com](http://WWW.MetroMedLab.com)

- **Childhood Allergy March Profile, 3 mo to 3 yr – 16 tests** TEST CODE: #13152
- **Respiratory Allergy Profile – 26 tests** TEST CODE: #13151
- **Food Allergy Profile – 13 tests** TEST CODE: #13150

Another test to consider for patients that spent anytime outside over the summer months:

**LYME DISEASE ANTIBODIES (IGA, IgG/IgM), SERUM**

TEST CODE #40000

## *CYCLOSPORA TESTING*

There continues to be an outbreak of **Cyclospora** infections associated with consumption of salads from a fast food chain in Iowa and Illinois. Health Care Providers should consider *Cyclospora* infection in patients with watery diarrhea, loss of appetite, weight loss, stomach cramps, bloating, nausea and fatigue. Symptoms can be transient for weeks to months without treatment. For *Cyclospora* analysis order specific testing: **Modified Acid-Fast Stain for Coccidia (Unit code 106520)** which looks for *Cyclospora* as well as *Cryptosporidium* and *Cystoisospora*.

## *PECOS, ABN'S, ICD-10 CODES*

Metro Lab's primary business is the clinical and anatomic testing of your patient's specimens. We use the most advanced technology, with the highest degree of accuracy, in a timely manner, and are available for technical questions when you call. Please know that we **cannot** change or alter your order or diagnosis code. Metro Lab can only submit a claim based upon what is submitted with the patient requisition. Any denied claims will be returned with a request for a corrected medically necessary code.

CMS has established internet based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) as an alternative to the paper enrollment process (CMS-855). You may find additional information on how to enroll or revalidate your status for any federally funded program requiring laboratory work on their website at [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov). Your physicians and next-level providers should be enrolled in PECOS if they are ordering laboratory testing on Medicare patients.

ABN's should be used for any patient with Medicare as his/her primary insurance. Medicare has a pre-determined frequency limitation on tests. If your office has collected a specimen to be tested, please go to our website at [www.MetroMedLab.com](http://www.MetroMedLab.com) to view an ABN workflow to determine if an ABN is needed. A list of tests on the National Coverage Determination (NCD) and the Local Coverage Determination (LCD) are also available.

ICD-10 codes should be used that specifically meet medical necessity. You can find the most recent CMS published codes on our website. Please be aware that some private insurances have added an additional layer of codes in order for them to process the claim. Check their websites or call them directly for guidance.

## *UPCOMING HOLIDAY*

A reminder that Labor Day is September 3<sup>rd</sup>. **ALL** Metro Lab locations will be closed on Sunday September 2<sup>nd</sup> and Monday September 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will resume normal posted hours on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup>.

*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**

