

# MLS Laboratory Update: Discontinuation of CDC *Vibrio cholerae* Toxin Gene and Serotyping Tests

JANUARY 13, 2025

## Purpose of this Message:

To notify clinical laboratories that the CDC is no longer offering testing for *Vibrio cholerae* toxin gene (*ctxA*) screening and serotyping.

## Action Item:

Clinical laboratories should continue reporting *Vibrio* spp. cases according to the Communicable Disease Reporting Rule [Infectious Disease Reporting \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/reportable/index.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/reportable/index.html) and submitting clinical materials to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).

MDH will continue providing confirmation reports, including culture results, speciation, and serotyping information, to clinical laboratories. CDC reports containing toxin results, following MDH confirmation, will no longer be available.

## Background:

CDC previously offered serotyping and toxin gene screening tests (Test Code: CDC-10119) for *Vibrio cholerae* to determine the toxigenicity of strains sent by public health laboratories. As of December 19, 2024, this testing has been discontinued for patient-level reporting.

MDH Public Health Laboratory (PHL) performs confirmation of *Vibrio* spp. at the genus and species levels using whole genome sequencing, along with serotyping using latex agglutination testing. These results will continue to be reported to clinical laboratories with a turnaround time of 5–7 days.

## Additional Information:

- CDC has indicated that several test orders are currently unavailable. For more information, visit the [Test Directory \(https://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/list.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/list.html)
- The MDH Infectious Disease Laboratory (IDL) Test Catalog can be accessed at [Infectious Disease Laboratory \(IDL\) Test Catalog \(https://labinventory.web.health.state.mn.us/#/\)](https://labinventory.web.health.state.mn.us/#/)

**Questions:** Please contact Jisun Haan, Ph.D, Enterics Unit Supervisor ([jisun.haan@state.mn.us](mailto:jisun.haan@state.mn.us), 651-201-5041)

*THIS IS AN UPDATE FROM THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (MDH-PHL) AND THE MINNESOTA LABORATORY SYSTEM (MLS). THIS MESSAGE IS BEING SENT TO MLS LABORATORY CONTACTS SERVING MINNESOTA RESIDENTS. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE.*

*\*\*PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO ALL APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL WITHIN YOUR INSTITUTION AND HEALTH SYSTEM\*\**

*THE CONTENT OF THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL AND RESPONSE PARTNERS WHO HAVE A NEED TO KNOW THE INFORMATION TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES. IT IS FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. DO NOT DISTRIBUTE BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT GROUPS AS DESCRIBED IN THIS MESSAGE.*

Minnesota Laboratory System  
Minnesota Department of Health, Public Health Laboratory  
601 Robert St. N, St. Paul, MN 55164-0899  
651-201-5200

[health.mnlabsystem@state.mn.us](mailto:health.mnlabsystem@state.mn.us)

[www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/mls/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/mls/index.html)

*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5200.*