



MEMORANDUM

Date: November, 2, 2021

To: WSLH Customers submitting specimens for COVID-19 testing

From: Allen Bateman, PhD, D(ABMM) *Allen Bateman*
Director, Communicable Disease Division

Re: Change in WSLH COVID-19 Testing Hours

Changes:

- After careful consideration and monitoring, the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) has determined there is no longer sufficient need to continue our extended weekend hours to perform COVID-19 testing. **Beginning on December 4, 2021, the WSLH will discontinue COVID-19 testing on the weekend.** The last Saturday we will perform COVID-19 testing is November 27, 2021.
- Gold Cross Courier service that is requested before noon for same day pick-up with delivery to the WSLH the following morning will continue to be available Sunday through Friday. **There is no Gold Cross pick-up service on Saturday.** Some of you have asked us to make the cut-off time for requesting a pick-up later in the day; however, the noon cut-off time is determined by Gold Cross and is essential to give Gold Cross time to determine the pick-up routes for their drivers. As always, requests for any STAT Gold Cross pick-up service must be approved by the WSLH.

Remaining the same:

- WSLH Communicable Disease Division (CDD) **Specimen Receiving will remain open on Saturdays from 6:30 AM – 12:30 PM to receive specimens that will be tested the following Monday.** The WSLH is closed on Sundays.
- Wisconsin Division of Public Health (WDPH) epidemiologist approved weekend testing remains unaffected by this change (e.g. measles, rabies testing).
- CDD Customer Service is available Monday through Friday from 7:45 AM to 4:30 PM for all of your questions at 800-862-1013. Our Emergency pager can be contacted for **emergencies** after hours and on weekends and holidays at 608-263-3280.

