

Information on the MDSS and ARUP Laboratories

June 6th, 2006

MDCH is pleased to announce that laboratory reports from ARUP Laboratories will now be electronically uploaded to the MDSS. Implementing this change will eliminate the burden of handling paper reports, reduce data entry time, and decrease the need for manual searches for existing cases by placing the lab reports through the MDSS deduplication process. With this electronic reporting in place from ARUP, MDCH will no longer be forwarding paper reports as the reports will be automatically sent through the MDSS. There will be no need for local health departments to enter the cases and the de-duplication will be performed electronically.

A couple of notes about ARUP laboratory reports:

- Limited information is available from ARUP Labs. ARUP Labs does not receive patient address so only a physician address will be associated with the reports. Phone numbers are also unavailable.
- Not all lab reports from ARUP Labs are indicative of a true case of disease. Each report should be reviewed carefully as part of your public health follow-up to see that it meets CDC case definition.
- Information on the tests that ARUP performs and their associated reference ranges can be found in their online user guide at http://www.aruplab.com/testing/user_guide.jsp.
- Lab results are submitted to MDCH from ARUP once per week on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon; therefore, cases will be created at these times
- ARUP Laboratories reports a number of Hepatitis B tests to the MDSS. When processing these records through your de-duplication queue at the local health jurisdiction level, we'd ask that you take a couple of additional steps to ensure that these cases are adequately investigated.
 1. If, during the patient de-duplication process, you note that the patient is a woman of childbearing years (12-60) or a woman with an unknown age, you should make a note of the patient name as you come to the investigation level of the de-duplication process.
 2. Investigations of cases of Hepatitis B (chronic or acute) identified in women of childbearing years should continue to be merged with the existing case, if appropriate.
 3. The next step in this process is to search for that newly merged case in the case listings.
 4. Change the 'Investigation Status' to 'Active'.
 5. Click Submit Changes.
 6. Conduct appropriate follow-up to determine the patient's pregnancy status and make a note in the MDSS file.
 7. Mark the case as completed.