

Subject: Update on availability of PZA test kits

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Dear Colleagues,

Over the past week, laboratories have received new shipments of BD BACTEC™ MGIT™ 960 PZA test kits. These kits were the first shipment received by laboratories following the Becton Dickinson and Company (BD) issued Medical Device Correction that called for removal of various lots of BD BACTEC™ MGIT™ 960 PZA test kits. A BD [customer letter](#) details BD's progress in rectifying the supply chain interruption and intermittent false resistance associated with the Medical Device Correction.

In short, BD has performed internal investigations and identified a corrective action that they feel addresses the root cause of the intermittent false resistance that led to the July 18th and August 1st Medical Device Correction and expansion. **BD believes that these newly shipped lots of BD BACTEC™ MGIT™ 960 PZA test kits are suitable for use.**

We encourage laboratories to evaluate these kits and understand it may take time before phenotypic pyrazinamide (PZA) susceptibility testing can be reinstated. Consequently, the California Microbial Diseases Laboratory (CA MDL), Wadsworth Center in New York State (Wadsworth), the Texas Department of State Health Services in Austin (TX DSHS), the Florida Department of Health Bureau of Public Health Laboratory (FL BPHL) as well as CDC's DTBE Laboratory Branch (DTBE/LB) will continue assisting public health laboratories with *pncA* sequencing of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex isolates as described in the August 7th CDC and APHL Dear Colleague Letter . Over the next few months, we anticipate scaling back the assistance for *pncA* sequencing available through the non-CDC laboratories listed above as work is completed to bring phenotypic PZA testing back online.

Please let us know if you have any questions. We will provide updates as they become available.

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