IDPH Division of Laboratories Announces COVID-19 Test Ordering Portal

To improve efficiency across IDPH labs, the Illinois Department of Public Health has implemented the IL ETOR portal (Illinois Electronic Test Ordering and Reporting portal).

ETOR is a web-based portal that will allow a submitter to enter all the necessary data to submit a COVID sample electronically on a laptop, tablet, or desktop. Once the submission is complete, the printed ETOR order form must accompany the sample to the lab. The patient data is electronically transferred to the IDPH lab where the specimen will be processed. In ETOR, the submitter can view when the sample has been received at the designated IDPH lab along with real-time testing progress. Once testing is complete, the laboratory releases results into the portal as a PDF which can be downloaded for quick access and follow up with the patient.

There are many benefits of ETOR for both the provider and the IDPH lab system:

1) ETOR expedites the data processing and improves turnaround times.

2) ETOR allows the provider to track the status of the specimen in the portal and know when it has been received at the lab.

3) ETOR uses electronic data entry which results in better quality data.

4) ETOR allows for quick access to laboratory results since they are available on the portal as soon as they are released from the lab.

5) ETOR maintains historical results for patients for tracking and reprinting for specimens submitted using this system.

Enrollment and use of this system is critical to the Division of Laboratories’ ability to maintain quick turnaround times while increasing testing capacity. Our goal is to transition submitters to use of this system by September 1, 2020. To enroll your facility in the IL ETOR portal or if you have further questions, please email DPH.LABS.DMG@illinois.gov and a ETOR project manager will contact you.