

**ROY COOPER • Governor** 

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH · Secretary

MARK T. BENTON • Assistant Secretary for Public Health

Division of Public Health

**DEE PETTIT, PhD, HCLD (ABB) •** Acting Laboratory Director, State Laboratory of Public Health

## Memo

**To:** LHD Lab Managers, County Animal Control, NC Clinicians

**From:** Rebecca S. Pelc, Ph.D.

**CC:** Regional Consultants

**Date:** July 23, 2019

**Re:** v11 LIMS upgrades

As many of our partners are aware, the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health's Virology/Serology Unit has been working diligently towards migrating from its current Laboratory Information Management System - StarLIMS Version 9 - to the new and enhanced StarLIMS Version 11 platform. Thanks to the efforts of a dedicated team of IT professionals and laboratory scientists, the Viral Culture/ Rabies Section is prepared to "go-live" with its StarLIMS V11 platform, effective Monday, July 29, 2019. Impact to our submitting laboratories will be minimal, though as a result of this software upgrade, Viral Culture / Rabies Laboratory Final Reports will display some notable changes in format and content. These changes will impact all reports, but the most significant changes will be seen on reports for Influenza Testing.

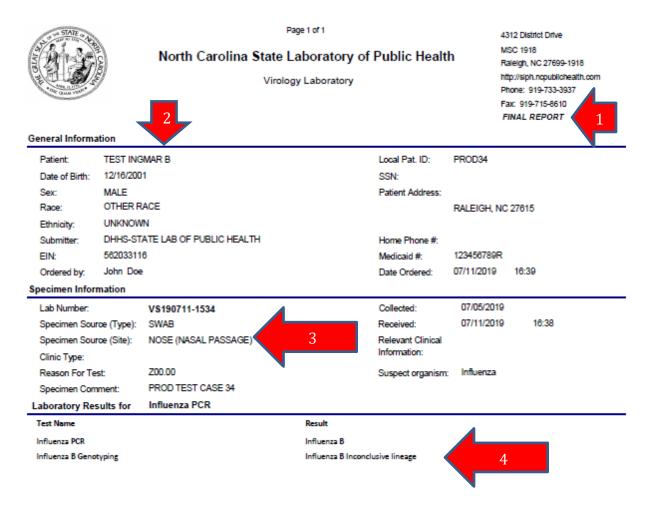
Please see the **StarLIMS Version 11 Sample Report** below, including highlighted field changes and corresponding notations:

- 1.) The **Report Type** is now located on the upper right-hand corner of each Report. The possible report types include: *Preliminary, Final, Corrected* and *Amended*.
- 2.) Under the **General Information** section, fields including "Ethnicity", "Ordered by", "Patient Address"/ "Home Phone #" and "Medicaid #" have been added. This will not apply to Rabies Reports. However, Rabies reports will have sections for "Breed / Color", "Condition" (reported as cold, room temperature and frozen", "Domestic Type" (reported as stray, feral, owned), and "Vaccination Status".
- 3.) Under the **Specimen Information** section, when submitting a Human Clinical test request, **the Specimen Source (Type)** field will include the type of specimen submitted. In most

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  $\cdot$  DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH  $\cdot$  STATE LABORATORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- cases, this will be a swab, but if an Isolate is submitted, the **Specimen Source (Type)** field will include "Isolate" and the **Specimen Sub-Type** will be the Source/Type of the isolate. The **Specimen Source (Site)** corresponds to a body site, if applicable.
- 4.) Under the **Laboratory Results** section, Test Name(s) are displayed in a column located on the left region of the report, and corresponding results are displayed in a column located on the right. Influenza testing is now resulted with sub-typing and genotyping as separate lines. In the provided example, Influenza PCR is Positive for Influenza B. The B-Genotyping result is reported as a separate line. Our previous reports had a single conclusion for all the influenza tests performed.

With these changes, it is more important now that our submitters complete all required information fields on our submission forms and to provide accurate information for EIN's, contact persons, and addresses. Incorrect or incomplete information will delay your receipt of results.



For additional questions on the Viral Culture / Rabies upgrade to **StarLIMS Version 11**, please contact John Bunting at 919-807-8824 or email at john.bunting@dhhs.nc.gov.

Thank you in advance for welcoming our newest upgraded LIMS platform. We are excited to share a more comprehensive and user-friendly experience with our partnering laboratories.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH • STATE LABORATORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH