

LABORATORY BULLETIN

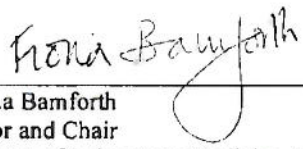



ALL SITES

SEPTEMBER 2009, Vol. 14 No. 8

REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF LABORATORY REPORTS REVISED VERSION

Background	Laboratory requisitions permit ordering physicians to have copies of a laboratory report sent to another physician or healthcare provider. Laboratory staff periodically receive requests that do not contain enough information to positively identify the name and location of the health provider who should be sent a copy of the report.
Legislation	The Health Information Act (HIA) legislation allows for the sharing of individual health information, where appropriate, to provide health services and to manage the health system, provided that the privacy and confidentiality of an individual's health information is protected.
Required information	To comply with the requirements of the HIA, and to ensure that laboratory reports are sent to the appropriate health care provider, the following information must be legibly written, by the ordering physician, in the "copy to" section of the laboratory requisition. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the full name (first and last name) of the health provider, and • address, building location, or clinic name.
Policy	The laboratory does not provide copies of laboratory reports to other health providers unless the required information is provided in the "copy to" section of the original requisition. The laboratory report will include the following comment: <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"In compliance with the Health Information Act, physician "copy to" report NOT SENT because of insufficient information on the laboratory requisition."</i></p>
Physician responsibility	If a physician wants to provide the report to other health care providers, it is his/her responsibility to do so in accordance with the Health Information Act. The laboratory will not be responsible for adding "copy to" requests once the final report has been issued. <p>Physicians are reminded that laboratory results are available dynamically on NetCare.</p>
Questions	If you have any questions about this laboratory policy, which is designed to comply with HIA, please contact Dr. F. Bamforth at (780)407-8851 or Dr. T. Higa at (780)451-3702.


 Dr. Fiona Bamforth
 Professor and Chair
 Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology
 University of Alberta
 Regional Program Clinical Director
 Regional Laboratory Services-Alberta Health Services


 Thomas E. Higa, MD, FRCPC
 Medical Director – Interim
 DynaLIFE_{DX}
 Diagnostic Laboratory Services