



Frequently Asked Questions at the MCDH Lab

How do I get my lab results? There are three ways to get them:

1. Call your doctor. He or she gets your lab results immediately after testing is completed.
2. Pick them up at the lab. Because of [HIPPA laws](#) protecting the privacy of your medical records, you must sign a release form and show your identification. At the time of testing, you also can authorize us to give your results to another person.
3. We'll send them by fax. When you come for your blood test, sign the release authorization form and provide us with a fax number.

Please note: federal privacy laws do not allow us to give you results over the phone. In the near future, our electronic medical record system will allow us to send your results by email.

How long will it take to get test results?

1. Testing performed at MCDH is usually done within 24 hrs, except if it is a culture for bacteria or some other Microbiology procedure; these procedures take 72 to 96 hours to complete and report.
 2. Reference laboratory procedures (specialty tests) require 3 to 7 days for the report.
- *Tip to know which kind of test you had: **Look at the labels you received when you were registered**. If the first letter in the number is a "Z", then the test will be sent out to a reference lab and you can anticipate a report within 3 to 7 days. If the first letter is an "M" then the test is a microbiology procedure and will be ready in the 72-96 hour timeframe. If the first letter in the number is not an "M" or a "Z", then the test will likely be performed in our Laboratory and will be ready within 24 hours.*

The letter "Z" means a sendout test.

Questions/Suggestions/Complaints

- If you need help or have a problem, call our Clinical Lab Manager, Emmet O'Connell at 707-961-4660.

The letter "M" means a microbiology procedure.

If not "Z" or "M", the test is done in 24 hrs.

0702:200015R TEST, ANDREA
DOB: 01/01/88 Loc: OP
Drawn: 07/02/13-1300 By:
BCN 557021
Tests: MS SURF AG, RPR

12:M0002647R TEST, BRENDA
DOB: 01/01/80 Loc: ER
Coll: 07/16/12-1315 By:
BCN 489723
Tests: MRSA SCREEN

0611:U00011R TEST, CARMEN
DOB: 01/01/60 Loc: ER
Drawn: 06/11/13-1654 By: PT
BCN 553418
Tests: UA