



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Department of Public Health
Dr. Katherine A. Kelley State Public Health Laboratory
395 West Street; Rocky Hill, CT 06067

To: Local Directors of Health

From: Jafar H. Razeq, Ph.D., HCLD (ABB)
Laboratory Director

RE: **Discontinue Routine Weekend and Holiday Rabies Testing**

Date: August 3, 2015

The Connecticut State Public Health Laboratory will discontinue routine weekend and holidays testing of suspected rabies specimens effective August 15, 2015. Rabies testing will be performed only from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Samples arriving at the laboratory on a Saturday, Sunday, or on a holiday, will be refrigerated upon arrival at the laboratory and tested the next working day.

For testing and specimen transport questions contact the State Public Health Laboratory at (860) 920-6550 or 860-920-6506, Monday through Friday between 7:30 am-5:00 pm. Questions concerning human exposures and the need for testing and prophylaxis can be directed to the Epidemiology Program at 860-509-7994 or 860-509-8000 after hours and on weekends.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Cc: Janet M. Brancifort, Deputy Commissioner
Raul Pino, Deputy Commissioner
Matthew L. Cartter, MD, MPH
Randall Nelson, DVM, MPH
Ellen Blaschinski, Branch Chief Regulatory Services