

News

Clinical Laboratory Test Update

Update to VZV and HZV PCR testing – change from whole blood to plasma

Effective February 2, 2026, the UCH Clinical Laboratory will change the source for blood testing for Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV) and Herpes Simplex Virus 1/2 (HSV) by PCR. The test will now utilize a plasma source for testing rather than whole blood to align with current testing guidelines.

This should be minimally impactful to providers and tests are to be drawn from the same tube (pink EDTA).

For information about lab tests, visit your local Clinical Laboratory's Test Directory (these can be found on The Source > Apps > Lab Test Catalogs or are all linked to UCH's test catalog: <https://www.testmenu.com/universityhospital>). If you have any questions or special concerns, email them to cara.faliano@uchealth.org or harry.porterfield@uchealth.org