

Subject: Discontinuation of CTS PT Program

To all it may concern:

This letter will serve as formal notification that the California Thoracic Society (CTS) will discontinue offering Blood Gas Proficiency Testing (PT) services as of the end of the 2016 enrollment year.

CTS realizes that proficiency testing is a sensitive clinical and accreditation area and we want to do our best to ensure a smooth transition.

A list of the CLIA Approved Proficiency Testing Programs offering blood gas testing in 2016 has been attached to this letter for you to reference (see *attachment*).

CTS suggests that all laboratories consider making Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Proficiency Testing (WSLH PT) their first choice as it would undoubtedly make the transition easier. WSLH PT has worked closely with CTS PT as their contracted vendor for 15 years.

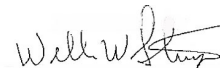
- WSLH PT is already familiar with CTS PT labs and current processes.
- WSLH PT will continue to work with CTS to minimize inconveniences associated with any provider transition.
- WSLH PT has indicated that historical CTS PT reports will be maintained on the CTS PT webpages of PT Central until at least 12/31/2018 to help labs continue to meet regulatory requirements for PT document control.
- WSLH PT will provide additional information directly to CTS PT labs this month to help labs plan for budgeting and re-enrollment.
- A transition to WSLH PT would primarily affect administrative PT functions, with minimal changes expected to familiar samples/shipping (fulfillment) and scoring (reports/agency transmission) processes.

We wish to thank you and your laboratory for many years of a successful relationship, and we wish you well in the future. Thanks again!

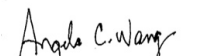
Cordially,



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