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INFORMATION NOTICE

DATE: 17 March 2020
TO: Investigators and Study Coordinators
FROM: Covance Site Communications
RE: Global COVID-19 Information Update

Covance Central Laboratory Services (CLS) would like to inform you of important study-related sample shipment details regarding COVID-19.

Improving health and improving lives is our company's mission. It is the foundation for everything we do, every day. Covance and its parent company LabCorp have taken a global leadership role in addressing the COVID-19 health crisis, including our recent launch of COVID-19 testing kits in the United States. Our leadership team is in regular contact with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and keeping closely abreast of guidance from the World Health Organization (WHO), federal agencies and other global health organizations.

Please find status updates for the key areas of our central laboratory operations below:

- **Logistics:** We're partnering closely with our couriers to ensure continuity around the globe. While enacting multiple mitigations to limit potential distributions, we're not seeing any major service impacts to our courier networks at this time. 24/7 monitoring & study level communications are in place to monitor these situations closely and provide updates as changes occur.
- **Supplies:** We've observed essentially no impact on critical supply items at this time and only minor impact on specific supply items globally. Covance has partnered closely with key suppliers to maintain continuity of supplies and has taken several actions to proactively address risks to our supply chain and to prevent the risks of supply outages. Our Kit Production capabilities are fully operational at this time.
- **Testing:** Covance CLS is observing no material impact on our laboratory operations globally. Processes are established to utilize our global network of testing for contingencies, where applicable.
- **Committed Teams:** Covance is committed to following WHO guidelines and local government recommendations for the care of our employees. We've enhanced our health & safety practices in all locations and are working on multiple contingency plans including segregated shifts, remote working opportunities, and travel restrictions.

Despite these measures, some sites may be unable to ship samples to Covance CLS for various reasons of mandated measures on transportation. Sites would then have to store samples for a prolonged period of time. To help minimize the amount of data loss due to non-standard storage, Covance CLS Medical Affairs is providing the following guidance:

- Safety Testing
 1. Serum samples for Chemistry, Electrolytes, Lipids should be stored frozen at -20°C or below.
 2. Urine samples for urinalysis should be stored at -20°C.
 3. Blood samples for Hematology have limited stability and cannot be frozen. For patient safety, site may opt for local lab testing as off-line references.
 4. HbA1c samples should be stored frozen at -70°C.

Note to Points #3 and #4: *If Hematology and HbA1c are to be tested off the same container, Hematology shall be cancelled automatically upon receiving frozen specimen.*

- Flow/Targeted Cell Isolation (TCI), Histology (i.e. wet tissue) and Microbiology (i.e. urine culture)
 - These samples have short stability and unfortunately cannot be stored frozen.
- Most serum serology samples should be stored frozen at -20°C or below.
- Plasma samples for Coagulation assays and for QuantiFERON-TB should be stored frozen at -20°C or below.
- EDTA plasma samples for DNA or RNA should be stored at -70°C.
- Anatomic Pathology, solid tissue specimens in fixative or paraffin blocks or sections from paraffin blocks require routine handling only. Refer to the Covance CLS Manual for additional details.

Please note that once sample is frozen, it should be shipped to Covance CLS frozen on dry ice. These are the general guidelines for non-standard sample storage which are applicable for the majority – but not all – of the analytes. There may be exceptional cases depending on individual study set-up. Should you have any question, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Covance CLS Investigator Support team for further clarification.

Please document the storage temperature conditions on the Requisition form sent along with the samples. Frozen specimens should be shipped frozen on dry ice to Covance CLS. Upon receipt, the stability of the samples will be checked at the level of the analyte, which may occasionally result in test cancellations.

We sincerely appreciate your collaboration as we navigate the impacts of this outbreak. Thank you for your attention to this notice. Should you have any questions, please contact Covance Investigator Support at the telephone number found within your Covance Central Laboratory Services Manual or at the appropriate telephone number for your location as listed in the header above.

Please retain a copy of this notice in your study files for documentation purposes.