



FAQs on CRIHB / AB Med COVID-19 TESTING and TRACING SERVICE



California Rural Indian Health Care, Inc. (CRIHB) has partnered with AB Med to deliver SARS CoV-2 testing on Rural Native American Reservations and for the people closely associated with those Tribes. Positive cases will be followed and traced to help fight the spread of COVID-19. The contact tracing program is a mix of remote and in-person contact tracing.

- 1) Who is involved?
 - a. California Rural Indian Health Board and AB Med are providing the services and CRIHB has secured funding.
 - b. We are testing and tracing all Tribal Members and close contacts, including non-Native persons living within Tribal communities within CRIHB's member base.
- 2) How are you testing?
 - a. We are establishing a network of Hub Testing Sites at 6 key areas that will be operating seven days per week. These sites will be:
 - i. Crescent City
 - ii. Eureka
 - iii. Alturas
 - iv. Santa Rosa
 - v. Big Pine
 - vi. Porterville
 - b. We are also establishing a network of Field Testing Teams that will be going into the rancherias and testing sub-groups of the population via pop-up or drive through testing sites. These operate 4 days per week and have a goal to reach two independent sites per week.
- 3) What are the performance characteristics of the tests being used compared to commercial send-away NP-specimen PCR tests?
 - a. We are using a NAAT PCR test that collects a sputum sample. This test is developed from Rutgers university and has an FDA EUA approval. The test is through MicroDX and Please see separate EUA.
- 4) When is testing?
 - a. Testing starts August 24th and runs through Mid-December
- 5) How many tests are you doing?
 - a. We are planning to complete approx. 2000 tests per month, state wide.
- 6) What is your testing turn around (TaT) time?
 - a. We are mandated to a maximum of 72 hours for TaT.
- 7) Who are analyzing the tests?
 - a. Our lab partner is My Lab Box and they have multiple CLIA High-complexity labs around the nation to ensure speed of results and throughput.
- 8) Are positive reported and to whom?
 - a. All positive tests are reported to CALREDIE.
- 9) What is the workflow of testing and contact tracing like?
 - a. Please see the work flow chart
- 10) How can I participate?
 - a. Any Tribal Health physician, NP or PA can request to be an ordering physician and receive emails on their patients being tested and traced.
 - b. Participate in weekly stakeholder calls on Fridays at 1pm.
 - c. Help spread the message in your community on where and when testing services are being offered
 - d. Suggest sites for the field testing teams to be setting up testing services in your communities



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- 11) How are you providing contact tracing and case investigation services?
 - a. All positive cases receive an outreach within 24 hours of their test result from our contact tracing team.
 - b. The patient demographics and info are entered into our Disease Surveillance System (DSS) provided by Global Emergency Response (GER).
 - c. Patients and contacts are then asked to complete daily and automated outreaches during their isolation or quarantine period.
 - d. In the event a patient or contact is unreachable by electronic or telephonic methods, we then deploy our Field Contact Tracing team to their house.
- 12) Will there be any reports or updates to us?
 - a. CRIHB, CTEC and AB Med will partner to build a dashboard with key metrics as well as other reporting. This is currently in development, your input is recommended and welcome.
- 13) Who creates the testing strategy and how can Tribal Health Programs be involved or lead this?
 - a. The testing strategy is formulated with input from CRIHB epidemiology team, AB Med epidemiology team and local THPs who know their communities best.
- 14) Can THP Providers access DSS data? If so, how?
 - a. While they can access the data through a log in, permissions need to be set up. Further discussion needed.
- 15) How do THP Providers access MyLabBox test results?
 - a. They can receive an individual log in to view patient results and even receive email reminders when tests are collected and resulted.
- 16) How will patients find out if they have a negative result? If they are to access a web portal, what happens if they do not have internet access?
 - a. Those without the ability to access their negative test results can call their PCP or Tribal Health Service Unit for results and hopefully the THPs participate with access.
- 17) How will the promotion of this program occur?
 - a. CRIHB is producing fliers and doing social media outreaches. Participation from THPs and Service Units to help spread the word in their community via fliers, emails and signage is also extremely helpful.
- 18) How do THP Providers refer a confirmed case who tested elsewhere (at clinic, local hospital, etc.) to the AB Med contract tracing service?
 - a. The contact tracing service can only accommodate those who have been tested through the same program. If a doctor would like to have a patient who has previously tested positive entered into the tracing program, they must be retested through this program.
- 19) What happens when a person who has no association with the THP or the Tribal community is tested and found to be a confirmed case? What responsibility does the clinics have for this patient?
 - a. None. That patient will be reported to CALREDI and their case investigated through this program. That patient will be referred to their PCP for further care.
- 20) How does AB Med report a confirmed case to the Local Health Department?
 - a. All positive cases are reported to CALREDI who then shares that data with County Public Health Departments.
- 21) What if a patient calls the clinic for assistance to reset their password for MyLabBox?
 - a. Please direct all request for password reset to the MyLabBox URL below to reset their password.
- 22) Who do I speak with for any operational, workflow, patient complaint or other issues and complaints?
 - a. Devlin Rice from AB Med or Dr. Erik McLaughlin from AB Med.



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- 23) If a Tribal Health Program would like more testing, how can this be arranged?
- a. They can reach out to Devlin Rice or Dr. Erik McLaughlin from AB Med.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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