

THIS SECTION DOES NOT RELIEVE AN ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OF THE DUTY TO REPORT UNDER § 18-201 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(D) REPORT TO SECRETARY.

A HEALTH OFFICER SHALL INFORM THE SECRETARY OF EACH LABORATORY EXAMINATION REPORT RECEIVED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(E) COMMUNICATIONS WITH PATIENTS.

THE SECRETARY, A HEALTH OFFICER, OR AN AGENT OF THE SECRETARY OR HEALTH OFFICER MAY DISCUSS A LABORATORY REPORT WITH THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, BUT, IF THE PHYSICIAN IS REASONABLY AVAILABLE, MAY COMMUNICATE WITH A PATIENT ONLY WITH THE CONSENT OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN.

(F) CONFIDENTIALITY OF LABORATORY REPORTS.

ALL LABORATORY REPORTS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND ARE NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION.

(G) INSPECTION OF LABORATORY RECORDS.

TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SECTION, THE SECRETARY, A HEALTH OFFICER, OR AN AGENT OF THE SECRETARY OR HEALTH OFFICER MAY INSPECT PERTINENT LABORATORY RECORDS.

(H) LIST OF NAMES.

A DIRECTOR OF A MEDICAL LABORATORY, THE SECRETARY, A HEALTH OFFICER, OR AN AGENT OF THE DIRECTOR, SECRETARY, OR HEALTH OFFICER MAY NOT COMPILE OR DISTRIBUTE A REPRODUCIBLE LIST OF ANY OF THE NAMES OF PATIENTS THAT ARE IN REPORTS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Article 43, § 31A(b) through (h).

In subsections (a) and (h) of this section, reference to a director of a medical laboratory is substituted for the ambiguous reference to an "individual in charge of a laboratory". This substitution is made to conform to the terminology used in Title 17 of this article and reflects that the rules and regulations of the Department impose the duty to file reports on the director. See COMAR 10.10.01.01G.

In subsection (b)(1)(ii)1. of this section, the phrase "that shows evidence of a disease required to be reported" is substituted for the word "performed", to clarify that reports contain information only about the test results that show evidence of a disease.