

Texas Health Steps Policy Change

Effective November 1, 2015

The DSHS Laboratory performs tests for anemia, dyslipidemia, and HIV diseases. Changes to the THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule will affect laboratory tests for the following screenings:

- Anemia – Mandatory screening will be required at 12 months of age only. Screening will no longer be required at age 18 months and for females at 12 years of age.
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) – In addition to the current risk based screening for ages 11 through 20 years, a mandatory screen will be required once between the ages of 16 to 18 years, regardless of risk.
- Dyslipidemia (previously hyperlipidemia) – In addition to the current risk based screening for clients 24 months to 20 years of age, a mandatory screen will be required once between the ages of 9-11 years and again between the ages of 18-20 years, regardless of risk.

The G-THSTEPS specimen submission form should be used for all laboratory screenings (except newborn screening) that are part of the THSteps medical checkup. The submission form can be found at http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/mrs_forms.shtm.

Email ClinicalChemistry@dshs.state.tx.us for information on specimen collection and shipping requirements, and how to obtain supplies for collection and shipping.

For more information on THSteps, visit the home page at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/thsteps/providers.shtm>.