

## DSHS Chagas Disease (*Trypanosoma cruzi*) Exposure Assessment and Testing Guidance

Process 2 Process 3

Person exposed or potentially exposed to a triatomine (kissing) bug and the bug or photo of the bug is available for identification

- Email the digital photo(s) to DSHS at the.vet@dshs.texas.gov
- If bug appears to be a triatomine or no photo is available, send the bug to DSHS for identification and testing (instructions and submission form are available on the DSHS Chagas page).
  - ➤ If the bug is not a triatomine, the person is NOT at risk for Chagas disease
  - ➤ If the bug tests **Positive** for *T. cruzi*, go to **Process 2** or **3**, depending on timeframe
  - ➤ If the bug tests **Negative** for *T. cruzi*, the person is NOT at risk for Chagas disease
- If the bug appears to be a triatomine, but is not available for testing and you wish to pursue clinical testing, go to Process 2

Person tests positive at a blood bank

#### OR

Person exposed or potentially exposed to a *T. cruzi*-positive triatomine bug >8 weeks prior

#### OR

Person with onset of cardiac disease compatible with chronic Chagas disease

#### OR

Person with Chagas-positive mother or sibling

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Person potentially exposed to blood or tissue from an infected person or animal >8 weeks prior (e.g. needlestick injury, tissue transplant) Person exposed or potentially exposed to a *T. cruzi*-positive triatomine bug ≤8 weeks prior

#### OR

Person traveled to a highly Chagas-endemic area and has acute symptoms

#### OR

Person potentially exposed to blood or tissue from an infected person or animal ≤8 weeks prior (e.g. needlestick injury, tissue transplant)

 Perform serology screening at the DSHS lab or a commercial lab (see next page for lab information)

**Negative** Serology

Person does NOT have Chagas disease

Positive, Equivocal, or Inconclusive Serology

If performed at DSHS lab: The DSHS lab will automatically forward specimens to the CDC for confirmatory testing.

### If performed at commercial lab:

Public health should request that any remaining sample be forwarded to the DSHS lab **OR** the provider can collect a new sample and send to the DSHS lab for follow up testing.

- Prior to sample submission, consult with Regional DSHS Zoonosis Control staff to 1) determine if PCR testing is warranted, and 2) to discuss other testing options
- If CDC agrees to test by PCR, submit the appropriate sample directly to CDC **OR** to the DSHS lab for routing to CDC (see next page for lab information). If serologic testing is recommended, the sample should be sent to DSHS or a commercial lab (follow **Process 2**)

- If the person is confirmed Positive at the CDC, visit
  <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/chagas/health\_professionals/tx.html">https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/chagas/health\_professionals/tx.html</a> for information on Chagas disease evaluation and treatment
- If the person tests **Negative** at CDC, the person does NOT have Chagas disease

# Major Laboratories that Currently Perform Trypanosoma cruzi Testing

## > Texas Department of State Health Services Laboratory

- Trypanosoma cruzi IgG Antibody Immunoassay
- Check Chagas IgG box in Section 6 of G-2A form (Jan 2022)

## ARUP Laboratories

- Trypanosoma cruzi Antibody, IgG
- Test Code 0051076

## Quest Diagnostics

- Trypanosoma cruzi Antibody, Total
- Test Code 94643

## Mayo Clinic Laboratories

<u>Trypanosoma cruzi Total Antibody, Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay, Serum</u>

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Chagas Disease Serology and Chagas Disease Molecular Detection
- Chagas serology at CDC is for confirmatory testing only. Samples should be sent to the state public health lab or a commercial lab for initial screening.
- Mark Chagas Disease box in Section 7 of G-2A form (Jan 2022) when requesting Chagas PCR, which requires pre-approval, <u>OR</u> when consultation with public health has shown that CDC serology testing is needed.

Disclaimer of Endorsement: Reference herein to any specific commercial laboratory or test does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the Texas Department of State Health Services.