

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH · Secretary

MARK T. BENTON · Assistant Secretary for Public Health

Division of Public Health

SCOTT M. SHONE, PhD, HCLD (ABB) • Laboratory Director, State Laboratory of Public Health

Memo

To:

North Carolina Local Health Departments; Communicable Disease Nurses

From:

Rebecca S. Pelc, Ph.D., Virology/Serology Unit Manager

CC:

Regional Consultants; HIV/STD Prevention and Care Unit

Date:

June 13, 2020

Re:

CT/GC Testing Method Change

Effective, June 15, 2020, the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health will transition to the Hologic Panther instrument platform for *Chlamydia* trachomatis (CT)/Neisseria gonorrhea (GC) testing. There will be no change to specimen collection or submission procedures.

The new platform will continue to utilize the Aptima Combo 2 Assay but will enable NCLSPH to consolidate testing equipment. In addition, extragenital testing will now be run as an FDA-cleared specimen type. You may notice minor formatting changes to results reports and we appreciate your patience during this transition.

Please contact Mark Turner at 919-807-8865 or <u>mark.turner@dhhs.nc.gov</u> with any questions or concerns about this change.