



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**  
Division of Public Health

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Laboratory of Public Health

# Memo

**To:** Submitters of Clinical Specimens to the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health

**From:** Damaris Hernández, MBA PMP CQA CSSBB, Operations Manager, State Laboratory of Public Health

**Date:** November 1, 2023

**Re:** Change to tuberculosis specimen collection kit

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Starting Monday, November 6, 2023, the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health (NCSLPH) will begin to transition to **50 mL Falcon tubes with 95KPa bags** for sputum specimens submitted for tuberculosis testing. These tubes and bags can be ordered as "Sputum Collection Kit" through the [NCSLPH mailroom portal system](#).

The NCSLPH will exchange any remaining sputum collection kit metal cans **through December 11, 2023**, with the same quantity of 50mL Falcon tubes and 95KPa bags at no charge. This exchange only applies to sputum collection kits for tuberculosis testing. All other collection kit metal cans will remain in use.

To exchange sputum collection kit metal cans:

- 1- Return remaining sputum cans to NCSLPH before December 11, 2023
- 2- Label the box of sputum cans with:
  - a) Name and address of the facility
  - b) Contact person
  - c) Direct phone number

For questions about orders or to arrange a product exchange, please contact Bill McDowell at [william.mcdowell@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:william.mcdowell@dhhs.nc.gov) or 919-807-8959.

For questions regarding sample submission, please contact Yvette Vergnetti at [yvette.vergnetti@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:yvette.vergnetti@dhhs.nc.gov) or 919-807-8792.

For all other questions, please contact Damaris Hernández, NCSLPH Operations Manager, at [damaris.hernandez@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:damaris.hernandez@dhhs.nc.gov).

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH • STATE LABORATORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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