

**NEW YORK STATE PARASITOLOGY PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM
FEBRUARY 2, 2010**

TO: Directors of Laboratories Applying for a Permit in Parasitology-Blood Borne Parasites Only

**FROM: Susan Madison-Antenucci, Ph.D., Director, Parasitology Proficiency Testing Program
Ms. Jill Ennis, Proficiency Testing Coordinator**

Our records indicate that your laboratory has applied for a 2010-11 Permit in Parasitology-Blood Borne Parasites Only. Please note that this category is applicable to labs which examine patient specimens (blood slides) for Parasites. The number of specimens included in this mailout is **FIVE**.

Enclosed you will find five *Stained, Methanol-fixed Blood Smears (10B-A through 10B-E)*. These specimens should be examined for all blood parasites. PLEASE HANDLE THESE SPECIMENS WITH CARE.

Limit your identification of the five Test Specimens (10B-A through 10B-E) to those parasites listed in the drop-down menus on the Electronic Proficiency Testing Reporting System's (EPTRS) result entry page. If you do not perform a particular test, please enter "Test not Performed" as your result. Please enter NO PARASITES SEEN to indicate a negative result.

If desired, a worksheet may be printed from EPTRS. Click on "Enter Results" at the bottom of the Event Menu page, and then click on the button labeled "Print Optional Worksheet" located in the lower right hand corner. For your convenience, a written copy of the glossary is available on our website at http://www.wadsworth.org/parasitology/pdf/blood_borne_glossary.pdf.

Proficiency test results must be submitted electronically by **Tuesday 16 February 2010**. Laboratories are responsible for notifying the State Laboratory at **(518) 474-4177 NO LATER THAN NOON, Tuesday 09 February 2010**, if specimens arrive in unsatisfactory condition, or the shipment is incomplete. If you have any questions, please call **Ms. Sandy Lionarons** at the above number. **Please have your Permanent Facility Identifier (PFI) number ready when you call.**

Address for general correspondence:

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