

To: All Greater Peoria Service Area Carle Health Facilities
Carle Health Methodist Outreach Clients

From: Carle Health: Peoria Service Area Laboratories

INFORM: Transition of FIT Testing to Carle Health Foundation Hospital and Carle Health West Mailer Workflow Changes

INFORM:

Carle Health is standardizing Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) processing across the system. The current OC80 instrumentation used at Carle Health Methodist Hospital Laboratory is **end-of-life (EOL)**, and reagents will sunset as of **12/31/2025**. To maintain continuity and improve efficiency, all FIT testing will transition to **Carle Health Foundation Hospital (CFH)** in Urbana.

As part of this change, mailer workflows will also be updated. Instead of returning mailers to Carle Clinics for registration, Mailers will come with USPS Business Reply Mail Postage directing all returned specimens directly to **Carle Health Methodist**, where specimens will be registered and batched for courier transport to CFH for testing. This transition ensures consistent processes across regions, payer network requirements, and reduces waste associated with pre-paid postage. Epic ordering remains unchanged.

ACTION:

Transition Period (Now through Cutover)

- **December 17-21, 2025:** Clinics identified with existing stock will automatically receive **new Green Label OC-Auto sampling bottles**. These green-labeled devices should **immediately replace the White Labeled Sampling Bottle currently inside mailers in clinics**.
Note: New Green Label OC-AUTO sampling bottles have a new Expiration date.
- **December 17, 2025:** Green Labeled Sample Bottles will be accepted for FIT testing.
 - **Action if Not Received:** Beginning December 22, 2025, If your clinic has mailers and **has not receive replacements in the initial shipment**, OR your clinic/department utilizes the sample bottles only, please complete a [Transition Supply Request](#) Form. [\[Link\]](#)
- **December 17-January 30, 2025:** Carle Health Methodist will operate in a **hybrid format**, accepting both White Labeled Sampling Bottles and Green Labeled Sampling Bottles until **January 30, 2026**.
Important Note: if the OC80 instrument at Carle Health Methodist becomes non-serviceable before 1/30/2026, testing will be discontinued immediately. Specimens received after that with a white label will be rejected and recollection will be needed.
- **January 31, 2026, or After:** If a White Labeled Sampling Bottle is received **after January 30 OR after the instrument is no longer serviceable (whichever comes first)**, the specimen **will be rejected**.

Future State (Post-Cutover)

- **Testing Location:** All FIT testing will be performed at **Carle Health Foundation Hospital (CFH)** in Urbana.
- **Mailer Workflow:**
 - Once current clinic stock of **pre-paid postage mailers** is exhausted, **patient mailers will be returned directly to Carle Health Methodist for processing.**
 - Methodist Outreach will **open mailers, register the specimen for the Date of Service, release the EXISTING order placed by the provider in Epic,** and batch specimens for courier transport to CFH for testing.
- **Specimen Collection Kit Ordering Process:** Effective immediately, Specimen collection kits will be ordered via **Carle Health Methodist Outreach Client Services.** They can be reached at **309-672-4911.** Please allow for additional delivery time during the transition period.
- **Clinic Workflow:**
 - Carle Clinic will provide the patient with the collection kit, **label the collection device,** and **place an order in Epic.**
 - Patients will collect their specimen, **document date and time of collection on the device,** and return using the Business Reply Mail envelope supplied in the kit.
 - Carle Health Methodist Hospital Laboratory will receive the specimen, manage registration, releasing the future order, and batching for courier transport to CFH.

Ordering and Specimen Requirements (Pre and Post Cutover)

- **Epic Order Requirement:** An order for Fecal Occult Blood (FIT) testing **must be placed in Epic as a future order when a kit is provided to a patient.**
- **Test Name and Code:** The Epic/Soft Order Code remains unchanged.
 - Test Name: FECAL IMMUNOCHEMICAL TEST
 - Epic/Soft Order Code: FIT
- **Labeling Requirement:** The specimen collection device **must be labeled at the time the kit is given to the patient.** This ensures that the proper patient can be located in Epic when the specimen returns for processing.
- **Patient Instructions:** Patients must be informed to **write the date and time of collection on the collection device before mailing the kit back to Carle Health.**

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION ABOUT GREEN-LABELED SAMPLING BOTTLES:

- The **green-labeled OC-Auto sampling bottles** are for use with the **new OC Auto Sensor iO analyzer** located at Carle Foundation Hospital Laboratory (CFH). The green label is an intentional visual indicator to ensure correct pairing with the new analyzer.
- These bottles contain a different buffer and **are not compatible with the olde Micro 80 analyzer.**



Left: White Labeled Sampling Bottle (Old) cannot be resulted moving forward and should not be distributed to patients starting 12/22/2025



Right: Green Labeled Sampling Bottle (New) should be distributed as soon as supply is received at your locations.

BACKGROUND:

This transition aligns West Region workflows with East Outreach for consistency and efficiency. Current stock of mailers will be utilized to fulfill orders until new Business Reply Mail kits are available.

CLOSING:

For all questions or clarification, please contact **Carle Health Methodist Customer Service**.

Thank you for your cooperation as we implement this system-wide standardization to improve patient care and operational efficiency.

Carle Health Methodist Hospital Laboratory and Outreach: 309-672-4911