

REPORTING OF KNOWN OR PROBABLE PREGNANCY STATUS

LABORATORIES CAN IMPROVE COMPLIANCE REPORTING OF KNOWN OR PROBABLE PREGNANCY STATUS

As part of New York City’s outreach, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene provides a Laboratory Implementation Guide to instruct laboratories on how to comply with the health code amendment as related to the reporting of known or probable pregnancy status. Laboratories that wish to implement reporting for women with syphilis should consider the following key questions.

What does a probable pregnancy status entail?



Indicate a probable pregnancy when the lab receives a reportable result for syphilis testing and:

- Prenatal panel/individual panel test ordered by providers.
- Pregnancy related ICD-9/ICD-10 code included on lab requisition.
- Specimen sent from a labor/delivery unit of a hospital.
- Specimen submitted by a free-standing birth center or prenatal/obstetric clinic where only pregnant women are seen.

Report pregnancy status uniformly. Pregnancy status could be reported by querying if patients are “Pregnant or Probably Pregnant”, with options of “Yes,” “No,” or “Unknown.” Data can be reported in:

- Relevant clinical information field of the HL7 message (OBR-13).
- ASCII Comment field #36 (Relevant Clinical Information).



How should labs report a probable pregnancy status?