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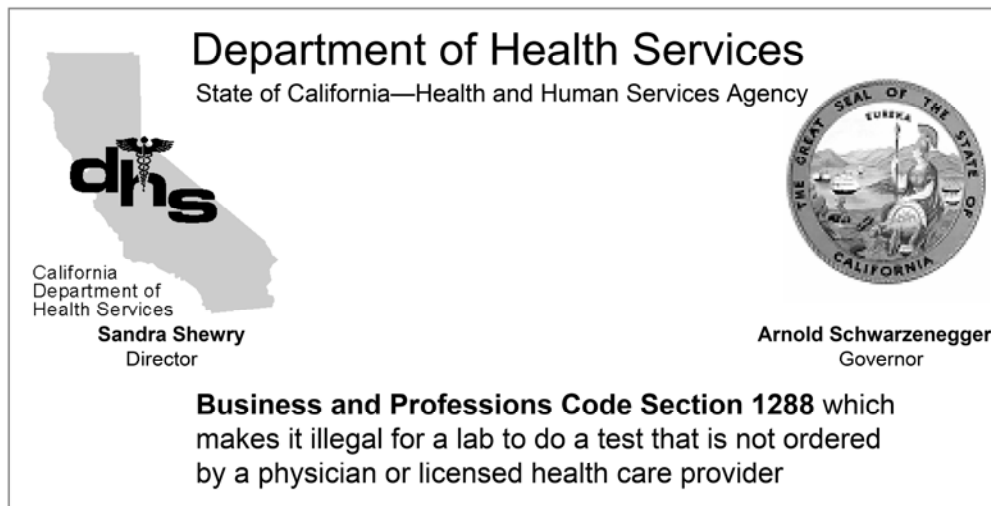
mdl@coh.org <http://mdl.cityofhope.org>

Dear Valued Client,

May 11, 2007

RE: City of Hope's MDL can no longer accept "Physician Delegate" forms from a clinician other than an RNP or PA.

California State regulations (Business and Professional Code Section 1288) requires a signature from individuals licensed to practice in the healing arts, currently limited to MD's, RNPs, and PAs, who wish to order laboratory testing. **NOTE: This does not apply to referral laboratories*.**



As a result, we are prohibited from accepting:

1. Test request forms without an appropriate signature
2. Physician delegate forms from anyone other than an RNP or PA
3. A physician's signature with another's initials adjacent, indicating that someone other than the physician has signed his/her signature

We have tried addressing this by using delegation of authority agreements. Unfortunately, these can only be established for RNPs and PAs. As such, we are asking for your help and cooperation to abide by California regulations. We now require some form of a signature from a licensed practitioner in order to release test results. **If it is not possible to get a signed test requisition form, we can accept:**

1. A copy of your institutional or internal order form with the practitioner's signature
2. Orders written on a prescription pad
3. Sets of orders for multiple patients in a signed letter
4. A copy of the clinic note where the test is recommended and has the doctor's signature.
5. Electronic versions of the items listed above.
6. ***Laboratory to laboratory referrals do not require the practitioner's signature**

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. We are available to discuss any other ideas or suggestions you may have, and are confident a mechanism can be found that will work well with your current system. Please feel free to contact us at mdl@coh.org, or **1-888-8-COH-DNA**.

Sincerely,

Juan-Sebastian Saldivar, MD, FACMG
Director of Molecular Diagnostics
City of Hope

Melissa Parra, MS, CGC
Certified Genetic Counselor