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**LABORATORY ALLIANCE**  
of Central New York, LLC  
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**To:** All Clients of Laboratory Alliance

**From:** Paul A. Granato, PhD  
Director of Microbiology

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Microbiology Manager

**Date:** February 22, 2018

**Re:** Important Flu Testing Notification

As everyone is aware, we are experiencing an unprecedented flu season that started unusually early and has not likely peaked. This has resulted in an unexpected surge in flu testing that has adversely impacted the manufacturing supply chain on a nationwide basis. In short, all manufacturers of the various diagnostic flu kits are having serious problems providing the kits necessary for diagnostic testing.

Laboratory Alliance is making every possible effort to have an adequate inventory of kits. However, our current inventory is low and it is uncertain when our next shipment of supplies will arrive. Because of this serious shortage, **ALL** health care providers are asked to limit flu testing to the very ill and those who are at risk of developing complications because of age and/or underlying co-morbidities.

Central New York is in the midst of a flu epidemic. Most cases of flu can be diagnosed by the typical clinical presentation of the disease and a diagnostic laboratory test is not always necessary.

At this time, we ask your cooperation in limiting testing to the seriously ill. **Lack of compliance with this request will likely result in Laboratory Alliance's inability to perform any testing because of depleted kit inventory.** The problem is that serious!!

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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