

Rescission of Guidances and Other Informal Issuances Concerning Premarket Review of Laboratory Developed Tests

The Trump Administration is committed to combating COVID-19, to ensuring that the public is protected against future pandemics, and to keeping duplicative regulations and unnecessary burdens from interfering with those efforts. Consistent with the President's direction in Executive Order 13771 (Executive Order on Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs) and Executive Order 13777 (Executive Order on Regulatory Relief to Support Economic Recovery), and as part of HHS's ongoing review of regulatory flexibilities enacted since the start of COVID-19, the department of Health and Human Services and the Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") will not require premarket review of laboratory developed tests ("LDT") absent notice-and-comment rulemaking, as opposed to through guidance documents, manuals, website statements, or other informal issuances. Those seeking approval for an LDT under an emergency use authorization ("EUA") for an LDT may nonetheless voluntarily submit an application for premarket approval, premarket notification or an EUA request, respectively, but are not required to do so, and FDA will adjudicate those submissions. Those opting to use LDTs in their laboratories without premarket review or authorization may do so with the understanding that they would not be eligible for PREP Act coverage absent approval, clearance or authorization and would remain subject to the requirements of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988, 42 U.S.C. § 263a, and its implementing regulations at 42 C.F.R. 127.1000. This announcement is an active EUA to use an LDT to detect the virus causing COVID-19 or its antibodies.

