AT THE FOREFRONT
UChicago Medicine

Clinical Laboratories

To: Medical Staff, House Staff, Patient Care Centers, and Outpatient Clinics

From: Vera Tesic, MD, MS, D (ABMM) Medical Director Laboratory Service Center
Cynthia Sporleder, MT (ASCP) Manager, Laboratory Service Center

Date: 11/16/2026

Subject: **Turnaround Time Delays for Referral Lab Tests**

Effective Date: 11/16/2026

Laboratory Section: Lab Service Center

Summary:

On Friday, November 13, 2026, a nationwide ground stop issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) temporarily disrupted domestic air traffic, affecting the timely movement of specimen shipments to and from U.S. airports. Turnaround times for referral laboratory tests on specimens collected that day were expected to be delayed. As of today, November 16, 2026, shipment movements have resumed and are proceeding on schedule.

Questions: If there are any questions regarding the change, test requirements or ordering, please contact: Laboratory Service Center at 773 702-1316.