



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Health**  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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**Date:** April 23, 2026

**To:** Healthcare providers

**Subject:** Pyrazinamide-resistance testing reinstated for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

Due to intermittent quality control issues that resulted in elevated rates of false pyrazinamide (PZA)-resistance determinations, Becton, Dickinson and Company (BD) conducted an in-depth investigation to identify and address the underlying causes. BD has since implemented modifications to the BD BACTEC™ MGIT™ 960 PZA kit, including updated inoculation procedures and a reduced shelf-life to help ensure ongoing reagent integrity. The revised kit is now available for clinical use.

The Anchorage State Public Health Laboratory has successfully validated this updated kit and is now performing PZA-resistance testing on all samples testing positive for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. We will continue to monitor the performance of this susceptibility testing.

Please contact us if you have any questions:

Call: **907-334-2100**, Anchorage State Public Health Laboratory, Mycobacteriology Lab

Email: [doh.phlabs@alaska.gov](mailto:doh.phlabs@alaska.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jayme Parker".

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Jayme Parker, PhD, HCLD(ABB)  
Chief, Public Health Laboratories  
CLIA Director