



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Public Health

DATE: January 23, 2019

TO: Submitters to the Office of Public Health (OPH) Laboratory

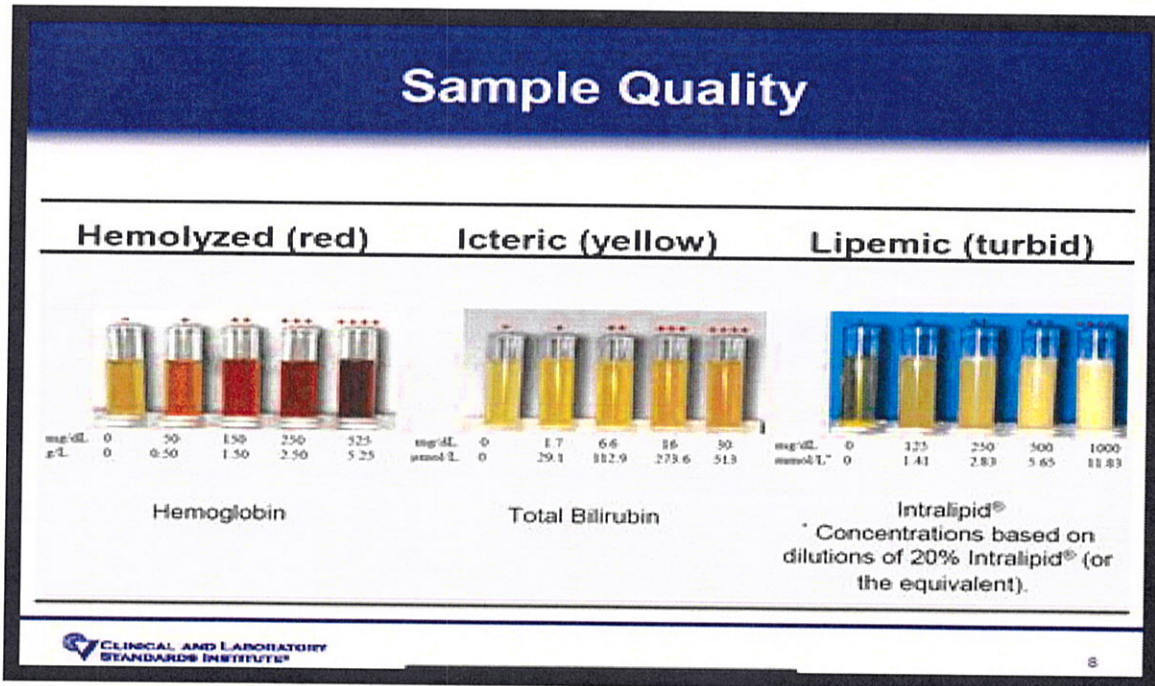
FROM: Daniel Ferguson, MD, OPH Laboratory Director

RE: Lipemic Specimen Guidance *DF*

Our ability to accept samples is based on our manufacturers' requirements in their package inserts, guidance such as "clear, non-hemolyzed, non-lipemic, non-icteric" serum, etc. This gives the laboratory no range for interpretation. We are required to reject specimens with any visible lipemia, for example.

Lipemia is an alteration which cannot be controlled or lessened by any laboratory techniques approved by our manufacturers. Patient fasting before blood draw is essential to address rejections due to lipemia.

Please refer to the CLSI Sample Quality chart below for an illustration of lipemia, and other visible serum alterations:



Refer to our website for additional specimen information - <http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Center-PHCH/Center-CH/ab/ClientServicesManual/CLIGENLIS003V7ClientServicesSpecimenParametersQuickReferencewebsitecopy.pdf>