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§493.801(b) Standard: Testing of proficiency testing samples

(b)(3)Laboratories that perform tests on proficiency testing samples must not engage in any inter-laboratory communications pertaining to the results of proficiency testing sample(s) until after the date by which the laboratory must report proficiency testing results to the program for the testing event in which the samples were sent.

Laboratories with multiple testing sites or separate locations must not participate in any communications or discussions across sites/locations concerning proficiency testing sample results until after the date by which the laboratory must report proficiency testing results to the program.

Interpretive Guidelines §493.801(b)(3)

Handle allegations of inter-laboratory communications or referral of proficiency testing specimens as a complaint and investigate using the complaint investigation procedures outlined in §6136 of the SOM. Immediately contact the RO if you find evidence to support these kinds of allegations.