

	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program	ISSUE DATE: October 25, 2011
	LAB BULLETIN	NUMBER: LB-62-2011
		LAP: Ionizing Radiation Dosimetry
SUBJECT: Change in Quarterly Proficiency Testing Schedule		

This bulletin announces the change in the schedule for proficiency testing conducted by Pacific Northwest National Laboratories (PNNL) for NVLAP-accredited dosimetry laboratories.

Beginning January 2012, PNNL's quarterly schedule for proficiency testing will be as follows:

- 1st quarter – Whole Body (Initial/Renewal/Retest)
- 2nd quarter – Extremity/EPD (Initial/Renewal)
- 3rd quarter – Whole Body (Initial/Renewal/Retest)
- 4th quarter – Extremity/EPD (Retest ONLY)

The schedule was changed in order to better accommodate laboratories that depend on government funding. The federal government's fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30. Given the availability of funds (or the lack of funds) at the beginning of each fiscal year, it is expected that this change in schedule will help to reduce the burden of collection of proficiency testing fees during the first quarter of each fiscal year (which is actually the 4th quarter in the calendar year).

Although some laboratories may not be able to immediately adopt the new proficiency testing schedule, it is expected that all laboratories will meet the new testing schedule by January 2013. Laboratories that are due for proficiency testing during 2012 should coordinate with Lyn Myers-Clement at PNNL to change their testing schedule as soon as possible. Ms. Myers-Clement may be contacted by phone: 509-375-7336 or by e-mail: lyn.myers@pnnl.gov.

This Lab Bulletin supersedes and replaces NVLAP Lab Bulletin LB-47-2009, *Change in Collection of Dosimetry Proficiency Testing Fees*, which has been withdrawn. Laboratories will continue to submit payment of proficiency testing fees directly to PNNL. NVLAP does not collect proficiency testing fees.

This and other bulletins pertaining to the Ionizing Radiation Dosimetry LAP have been posted along with NIST Handbook 150-4, *NVLAP Ionizing Radiation Dosimetry*, on the NVLAP website at <http://www.nist.gov/nvlap/nvlap-handbooks.cfm>.

Questions concerning the requirements for accreditation should be directed to Betty Ann Sandoval at 301-975-8446, or betty.sandoval@nist.gov.