Date

Media contact
Phone/email

For Immediate Release

NO NAME MEDICAL CENTER'S Chemical Stress Test Patients Begin Responding to Follow-up Screenings

CITY, STATE – DATE – NO NAME MEDICAL CENTER announced today that it had confirmed X NUMBER patients, of the X NUMBER notified, have received the notification letter encouraging screening tests for bloodborne infection. Of the X NUMBER that received the letter approximately X percent have gone to LABORATORY NAME for testing. The need for patient screenings arose when hospital administrators recently learned a healthcare provider incorrectly used patient supplies intended for single-use on more than one patient.

NO NAME MEDICAL CENTER is urging individuals who have received a pending delivery notification from the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to follow-up with USPS to obtain their certified letter. All patients who received cardiac chemical stress tests administered by the healthcare provider were included in the group of those notified, and should be screened.

As of today, the hospital has received X NUMBER preliminary test results from those patients who sought screenings in response to the notice. Several factors influence the timing and reporting of the test results:

• Although NO NAME MEDICAL CENTER is encouraging all patients who received notification to be tested, the screening is voluntary and as such the timing of the testing varies by patient. Whether the individual chooses to be screened at LABORATORY NAME and the actual date of the screening also affect the timing of the results.

• Each patient screening is intricate and comprises testing for three different bloodborne infections: hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV.

• Once preliminary screenings results are received, NO NAME MEDICAL CENTER will appropriately notify patients. Preliminary positive test results will undergo further physician evaluation on an individual case by case basis. Following the assessment, patients will be scheduled for physician consultations to thoroughly review medical history and other details to determine the origin of the infection, if any is detected.

"Based on the current COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT disease prevalence data, we expect some of the screening results to be positive for infection exposure and we will need to conduct an individual evaluation to help determine the origin. At this time, we will make certain the individual receives appropriate care and follow-up," stated NAME, head of INFECTIOUS DISEASES DEPARTMENT, NO NAME MEDICAL CENTER. "It would be premature to arrive at any conclusions prior to further physician evaluation of each case."

According to the STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT Hepatitis Surveillance Report (DATE) issued by the STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT in MONTH YEAR, more than X NUMBER STATE RESIDENTS are infected with hepatitis C, but the majority are unaware they are infected, based on national estimates. The incidence of acute hepatitis B in STATE has averaged approximately X per 100,000 people over the last five years. From the most recent data available, in COUNTY NAME in YEAR there were X NUMBER newly diagnosed cases of hepatitis B, X NUMBER of hepatitis C and X NUMBER of HIV.

NO NAME MEDICAL CENTER plans to send a second notification letter by certified mail to encourage those patients who have not been tested to do so.

Information related to the screenings and results will be updated on a dedicated web page
([WEBPAGE)](http://www.browardhealth.org/patientnotice%29) on a weekly basis, every DAY by TIME.

For additional information or questions, concerned patients should contact the dedicated 24-hour hotline at NUMBER or visit [WEBSITE.](http://www.browardhealth.org/patientnotice)