



# Proficiency Testing Hot Topic

## Keeping PT Inside the Four Walls



### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Laboratories **MUST NOT ACCEPT** and **TEST** any PT sample(s) from another laboratory (including another Quest Diagnostics laboratory).
2. Laboratories **MUST NOT REFER** any portion of a PT sample to another laboratory (including another Quest Diagnostics laboratory).
3. Laboratories **MUST NOT** engage in either Intra- or Inter-laboratory communication about PT samples before formal evaluation of results by the PT provider (including communication with another Quest Diagnostics laboratory).

For additional information, please refer to QDMOQ711 & QDMOQ712.

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### Scenario 1:

Faxing to another laboratory (RRL – RRL), IT updated the auto fax phone number incorrectly.

### How to Avoid This Situation:

1. Make sure that there is a process to verify fax number after an IT update and periodically.
2. Verify the auto-fax number for your internal PT client number



### Scenario 2:

A Packets of active PT results was delivered to the RRL lab director who was sitting at the main lab.

### How to Avoid This Situation:

1. Do not send PT documentation outside of the four walls of the performing laboratory

### Key Takeaway:

- Do not take PT documentation outside of the four walls
- Do not send PT specimens outside of the four walls

**NOTE:** Remote sites acting as an extension of a primary laboratory and disclosed on the report are considered to be “within the four walls” of the laboratory. Refer to *Policy for Remote Analysis, Review, Interpretation, and Reporting* (QDMOQ763) for details and requirements.