

## QA.PT.1.2 PROFICIENCY TESTING DO'S AND DON'TS



#### **DO** Treat PT Samples the Same as Patient Samples

• Some special handling may be required as instructed per the PT provider's instructions, but PT samples must be treated in the same manner as patient samples to the extent possible.

• PT samples must not be tested more than once unless a repeat protocol for patient testing is specifically defined by the test SOP and the PT sample meets the repeat criteria.



# **DON'T** Talk About PT Samples or Their Results Until MACL Has Received the Results' Evaluation Report from the PT Provider

 We cannot talk about the samples or their results within MACL or with other, outside labs until we have received the evaluation from our PT provider.

 If you have a concern about the assay, reagents or test run containing a PT sample, contact your supervisor or laboratory director for advice—*not* another lab, even another MACL lab.



### **DON'T** Reflex PT to Tests Not Performed Within Your Lab

 No portion of a PT sample may be referred to another lab. Any testing or interpretation normally referred to another laboratory for patients must not be referred for a PT sample.

Cancel any reflex test automatically generated by the LIS that goes to another lab.



### **DON'T** Refer to or Accept from Another Lab Any Part of a PT Sample

- We may not send PT material to another lab for testing.
- If we receive PT material from another lab, sequester the material and **do not test**.
  Immediately notify your supervisor, manager, lab director, or the quality officer.

Suspect a PT sample if it has a suspect name (eg, AAB, AAFP, ACCU, ACCUTEST, ACP, API, ASCP, ASIM, CAP, CTS, EXC, EXCEL, MLE, NY, PROFICIENCY, SURVEY, or WSLH are part of the patient ID), or if it appears to be a commercially prepared product or has characteristics similar to an active PT sample.