



MEMO

TO: North Dakota Healthcare Providers
North Dakota Laboratory Directors
Local Public Health Units

FROM: Tracy K. Miller, MPH *TJM*
Epidemiology and Surveillance Program Manager

RE: West Nile Virus and Arbovirus Testing

DATE: October 18, 2006

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) would like to thank you for your efforts during the 2006 West Nile virus (WNV) season. The NDDoH's arbovirus surveillance program was suspended for the winter months as of **October 1, 2006**. More than 800 samples were sent to the North Dakota Public Health Laboratory for testing, with 136 positive samples identified to date.

Free laboratory testing for arboviral encephalitis was discontinued on October 1, 2006. Exceptions may be made after consultation with Disease Control staff or with Myra Kosse, Director of Laboratory Services. Arboviral testing will continue to be offered as a fee-for-service. Cost of testing is \$60 for WNV testing alone or \$120 for the arboviral panel. If you have any questions regarding testing, please contact the laboratory at 701.328.6272.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Michelle Feist or myself at 701.328.2378 or 800.472.2180.