



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
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**Agenda Item Number:** 5

**Agenda Date:** August 8, 2023

**In Control:** Audit Committee

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**DEPARTMENT:** Office of the City Auditor

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Kevin Barthold

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Acceptance of the Office of the City Auditor Report AU23-018 Audit of Metro Health Lab Operations.

**SUMMARY:**

Determine if Metro Health Laboratories are in compliance with regulations and operating efficiently and effectively.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Background

Metro Health's responsibility is to provide public health programs that prevent illness, promote healthy behaviors, and protect against health hazards. Laboratory Services support these functions by providing the following testing services: tuberculosis and serology, water bacteriology, rabies, and regulated milk and dairy. In addition, Metro Health participates in a Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention cooperative agreement to coordinate a network of laboratories that can respond to biological and chemical threats and other public health emergencies. These services are funded by grants and the general fund.

In total, 16 personnel play a part in executing laboratory procedures at three separate locations: the Main Laboratory, the Sexually Transmitted Infections Laboratory, and the Laboratory Response Network Lab. These laboratories are heavily regulated and undergo multiple reviews by external agencies.

### Scope & Methodology

The audit scope was laboratory operations for March 2021 through May 2023 and included compliance reviews, personnel training, fiscal and inventory monitoring, and physical and system access controls.

### Conclusions

Metro Health laboratories are in compliance with regulations and operating efficiently and effectively. Required accreditation standards and training requirements are met. Fiscal controls are in place to include inventories, cash reconciliations, and invoice review. Furthermore, periodic reviews are performed to confirm access is appropriate for data systems and laboratory access.

We make no recommendations to Metro Health; consequently, no management responses are required.

### **ISSUE:**

This item is presented for acceptance by the Audit Committee.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

NA

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

None

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends acceptance of this audit report.