

Important Notice: Rhodes Hall laboratory renovation (Jan-March 2026).

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Introduction

(Why is this important?)

Chemistry and immunochemistry testing may be delayed during 12-week construction of the Rhodes Hall main laboratory.

James Stat Lab, which supports both the Emergency Department and James Clinics, will continue to operate without interruption. All testing services will proceed as normal.

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Situation

(What is the current situation?)

The Rhodes Hall main laboratory will be renovated to install a new automation line as well as chemistry and immunochemistry instruments to support operations of the new University Hospital. To minimize the potential impact, the laboratory will be staffing additional personnel and making some temporary changes to certain sample collection procedures, however, chemistry and immunochemistry test results may be delayed during this time.

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Background

(What is important to know about the background?)

- Start date: January 5, 2026
- Duration: 12 weeks
- Estimated end Date: March 30, 2026

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Assessment

*(What is the evaluation?)
(Could include costs, risks, etc.)*

- **Turnaround time:** chemistry/immunochemistry test delays expected, especially with add-on testing.
- **Sample collection change (beginning Dec 16):** certain chemistry/immunochemistry sample collection instructions will be temporarily changed to require additional tubes.

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Recommendation

(What actions need to take place?)

- Communicate changes to all nursing staff, physicians, pharmacists and leadership.
- Beginning December 16, 2025, ensure the unit is stocked with additional SST (gold top serum separator tubes) and PST (mint top plasma separator tubes) as additional samples may be required.
- Prepare for extended turnaround times for chemistry and immunochemistry tests and adjust workflows accordingly.
- Contact the laboratory for urgent issues only as diverting personnel from testing to handle phone calls may worsen turnaround times.

