

Dear VQA HIV-1 Drug Resistance Sequencing Participants,

Due to COVID-19 there is increased regulation in importing materials and decreased availability of flights for the shipment to our international participants. Because of the difficulty of shipping materials, we will not be shipping the drug resistance PT panel next week (week of June 15th). The PT will continue, but the panels will ship at a later date.

We are working closely with BioCair and World Courier to book flights for the panels. We ask that all laboratories who are unable to participate in the HIV-1 Drug Resistance PT due to COVID-19 notify the VQA via email at vqa-gen@duke.edu by **19 June 2020**. This will help us in planning the shipment of the PT.

We do not have a new shipping date right now, but once we have confirmed the shipment to our international sites, we will send out a two week notice to all participants prior to the PT shipment. After the PT ships, the labs will have the normal 6 week time to complete the PT. We will work with any labs that may need to apply for an extension during this time. Please reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regards,

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