

(5) Certificate of accreditation.

§ 493.10 [Removed]

5. Section 493.10 is removed.

§ 493.16 [Redesignated as § 493.19]

6. Section 493.16 is redesignated as § 493.19 and is revised to read as follows:

§ 493.19 Provider-performed microscopy (PPM) procedures.

(a) Requirement. To be categorized as a PPM procedure, the procedure must meet the criteria specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) Criteria. Procedures must meet the following specifications:

- (1) The examination must be personally performed by one of the following practitioners:
(i) A physician during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from a patient of a group medical practice of which the physician is a member or an employee.
(ii) A midlevel practitioner, under the supervision of a physician or in independent practice only if authorized by the State, during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from a patient of a clinic, group medical practice, or other health care provider of which the midlevel practitioner is a member or an employee.

(iii) A dentist during the patient's visit on a specimen obtained from his or her own patient or from a patient of a group dental practice of which the dentist is a member or an employee.

(2) The procedure must be categorized as moderately complex.

(3) The primary instrument for performing the test is the microscope, limited to bright-field or phase-contrast microscopy.

(4) The specimen is labile or delay in performing the test could compromise the accuracy of the test result.

(5) Control materials are not available to monitor the entire testing process.

(6) Limited specimen handling or processing is required.

(c) Provider-performed microscopy (PPM) examinations. A laboratory may qualify to perform tests under this section if it restricts PPM examinations to one or more of the following procedures (or additional procedures added to this list as provided under paragraph (d) of this section), waived tests and no others:

(1) All direct wet mount preparations for the presence or absence of bacteria, fungi, parasites, and human cellular elements.

(2) All potassium hydroxide (KOH) preparations.

(3) Pinworm examinations.

(4) Fern tests.

(5) Post-coital direct, qualitative examinations of vaginal or cervical mucus.

(6) Urine sediment examinations.

(7) Nasal smears for granulocytes.

(8) Fecal leukocyte examinations.

(9) Qualitative semen analysis (limited to the presence or absence of sperm and detection of motility).

(d) Revisions to criteria and the list of PPM procedures.

(1) The CLIAC conducts reviews upon HHS' request and recommends to HHS revisions to the criteria for categorization of procedures.

(2) HHS determines whether a laboratory procedure meets the criteria listed under paragraph (b) of this section for a PPM procedure. Revisions to the list of PPM procedures proposed by HHS are published in the Federal Register as a notice with an opportunity for public comment.

(e) Laboratory requirements. Laboratories eligible to perform PPM examinations must—

(1) Meet the applicable requirements in subpart C or subpart D, and subparts F, H, J, K, M, and P of this part.

(2) Be subject to inspection as specified under subpart Q of this part.

7. Section 493.20 is revised to read as follows:

§ 493.20 Laboratories performing tests of moderate complexity.

(a) A laboratory may qualify for a certificate to perform tests of moderate complexity provided that it restricts its test performance to waived tests or examinations and one or more tests or examinations meeting criteria for tests of moderate complexity including the subcategory of PPM procedures.

(b) A laboratory that performs tests or examinations of moderate complexity must meet the applicable requirements in subpart C or subpart D, and subparts F, H, J, K, M, P, and Q of this part. Under a registration certificate or certificate of compliance, laboratories also performing PPM procedures must meet the inspection requirements at § 493.1777.

(c) If the laboratory also performs waived tests, compliance with subparts H, J, K, M, and P of this part is not applicable to the waived tests. However, the laboratory must comply with the requirements in §§ 493.15(e) and 493.1775.

8. In § 493.25, paragraphs (c) and (d) are redesignated as (d) and (c), respectively, and paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) are revised to read as follows:

§ 493.25 Laboratories performing tests of high complexity.

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(b) A laboratory performing one or more tests of high complexity must meet the applicable requirements of subpart C or subpart D, and subparts F, H, J, K, M, P, and Q of this part.

(c) If the laboratory also performs tests of moderate complexity, the applicable requirements of subparts H, J, K, M, P, and Q of this part must be met. Under a registration certificate or certificate of compliance, PPM procedures must meet the inspection requirements at § 493.1777.

(d) If the laboratory also performs waived tests, the requirements of subparts H, J, K, M, and P are not applicable to the waived tests. However, the laboratory must comply with the requirements in §§ 493.15(e) and 493.1775.

9. In § 493.35, paragraphs (a) and (d) are revised to read as follows:

§ 493.35 Application for a certificate of waiver.

(a) Filing of application. Except as specified in paragraph (b) of this section, a laboratory performing only one or more waived tests listed in § 493.15 must file a separate application for each laboratory location.

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(d) Access requirements. Laboratories that perform one or more waived tests listed in § 493.15(c) and no other tests must meet the following conditions:

(1) Make records available and submit reports to HHS as HHS may reasonably require to determine compliance with this section and § 493.15(e);

(2) Agree to permit announced and unannounced inspections by HHS in accordance with subpart Q of this part under the following circumstances:

(i) When HHS has substantive reason to believe that the laboratory is being operated in a manner that constitutes an imminent and serious risk to human health.

(ii) To evaluate complaints from the public.

(iii) On a random basis to determine whether the laboratory is performing tests not listed in § 493.15.

(iv) To collect information regarding the appropriateness of waiver of tests listed in § 493.15.

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10. In § 493.37, the introductory text of paragraph (b) is republished and paragraphs (b)(2) and (g) are revised to read as follows:

§ 493.37 Requirements for a certificate of waiver.

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