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Southern New Hampshire Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) Contamination

The NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is supporting the NH Department of Environmental Services' (NHDES) ongoing investigation into the presence of perfluorochemicals (PFCs) in drinking water in Southern New Hampshire.

NHDES, out of an abundance of caution, is providing bottled drinking water to residences using a private well for drinking water for human consumption that contains over 100 parts per trillion (ppt) of the specific PFC, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA).

While there is not a medical need or recommendation for PFC blood testing, we understand that some individuals are concerned about their exposure and may want to know their blood level of PFOA. We will support the community and NHDES' efforts by helping affected residents understand their PFC blood testing options. For individuals whose private wells show PFOA levels above 100 ppt, and who are interested in having their blood tested for PFOA, DHHS and NHDES will work directly with these individuals and their healthcare providers to help them receive PFC blood testing.

For individuals whose drinking water was not found to have PFOA above 100 ppt, but who still wish to have their blood tested for PFOA, we have identified two laboratories that offer testing to individuals through their primary care provider. Information about the companies' testing process, panel of PFCs tested, and pricing can be obtained by calling the numbers listed below and/or visiting their website:

Vista Analytical Laboratory

916-673-1520

<http://www.vista-analytical.com/>

NMS Laboratory

866-522-2206

<http://www.nmslabs.com/>

A PFC blood test can tell you about how much of which PFCs are in your body at the time of the test. A PFC blood test cannot:

- tell you where or how you were exposed to PFCs found in your body
- tell you what, if any, health problems might occur, or have occurred, because of PFCs in your body
- be used by your doctor to guide treatment decisions

We will continue to provide education and recommendations to healthcare providers so that they can have an informed discussion with their patients about the significance of finding PFCs in a person's blood. We recommend that all healthcare providers follow their patients and perform any routine diagnostic or screening tests as medically indicated, based on their history, physical examination, and assessment.