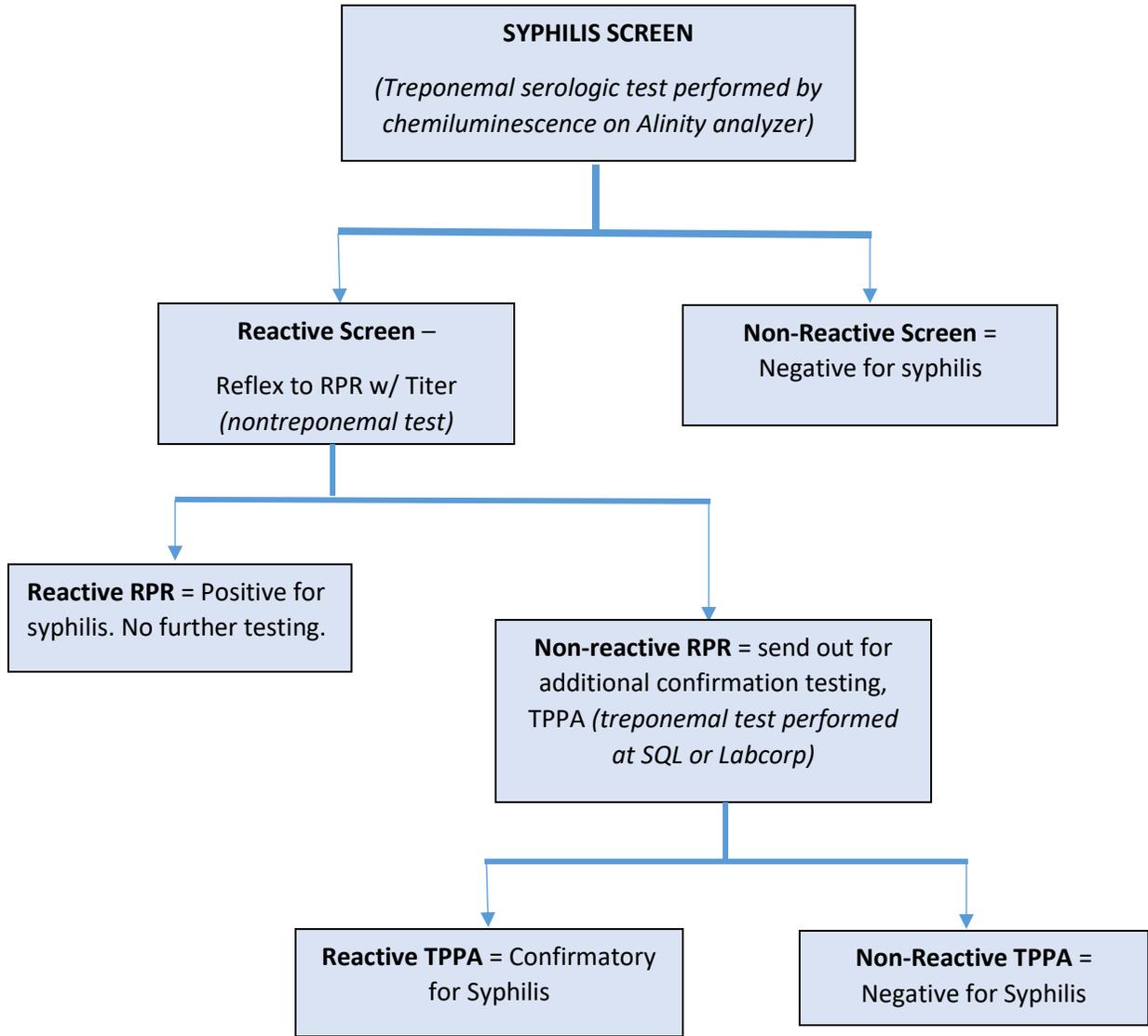




Date:	08/15/2025
Completed By:	HonorHealth Laboratory Network
Campuses Affected:	HonorHealth Network
Issue Addressed:	Syphilis Testing
Situation	Syphilis testing is changing from traditional algorithm to the reverse algorithm for the HonorHealth Network.
Background	<p>Historically, clinical testing for syphilis has been performed following the traditional algorithm – begin with nontreponemal (lipoidal antigen) test, and any reactive specimens are tested for confirmation by a treponemal test. However, with the automated treponemal immunoassays now being FDA cleared for clinical screening, a new reverse algorithm was introduced. The reverse algorithm is an initial screening by automated treponemal test, and any positive results are followed by a quantitative nontreponemal (lipoidal antigen) test. Any discordant results using the reverse algorithm are confirmed by a second treponemal assay.</p> <p>CDC recommendations for laboratory testing for syphilis state both algorithms are acceptable, and labs should determine the algorithm most appropriate for their sites based on staff, space, costs, volumes, and patient population being served.</p> <p>CDC Laboratory Recommendations for Syphilis Testing, United States, 2024 MMWR</p>
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HonorHealth is currently performing syphilis testing by traditional algorithm – RPR w/ reflex to titer performed at the HH Micro Lab; positive are sent out to reference lab (SQL or Labcorp) for TPPA. • New Abbott Alinity analyzers have the capability of performing the automated treponemal screen to be used with the reverse algorithm. This is ideal and more efficient for the volume of testing performed within the HonorHealth Network. • Exception to the reverse algorithm: Recommended testing for newborns born to mothers with positive syphilis serologies during pregnancy is a quantitative nontreponemal screen (i.e. RPR).
Recommendation	<p>HonorHealth Laboratories will be converting to the reverse algorithm for Syphilis testing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Test order: Syphilis Scrn w/rflx RPR and Titer, or TPPA [LAB7244] – this will be the primary syphilis testing option for the HonorHealth network, excluding infants. • Neonatal Syphilis testing will remain the same as current: RPR w/ Reflex to Titer/TPPA [LAB7008] • See chart below for new workflow of syphilis testing to be performed at the HonorHealth Ambulatory Lab:

SYPHILIS TESTING WORKFLOW (EXCLUDING NEONATE TESTING)



NEONATE SYPHILIS TESTING (INFANTS <1 YEAR)

RPR w/ reflex to Titer/TPPA.