

# Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) Overview

**The OSPHL has supported population health through laboratory testing since 1903.**

By Oregon Statute, the OSPHL's communicable disease testing focuses on reportable conditions. These conditions are shown to have the greatest health risk and impact to Oregon's population.

(Examples of testing: meningitis, agents of bioterrorism, influenza, *E. coli*, salmonella, tuberculosis, Chlamydia, hepatitis)

## OSPHL Key Function – Communicable Disease Control

- Identify communicable diseases.
- Perform laboratory testing for communicable disease outbreaks (initial testing and DNA typing).
- Perform testing that provides additional detail about communicable disease organisms for disease tracking and outbreak response.

## Why is OSPHL Important to CCOs?

Critical infrastructure for outbreak response  
(e.g., University meningitis outbreaks, national outbreaks such as Chipotle *E. coli*, Ebola virus)

Performs laboratory testing for emerging and resurging infectious diseases  
(Public health labs can often test before other labs for these diseases, such as Zika virus and MERS.)

Monitors antibiotic resistance for diseases of significance to Oregon's population  
(e.g., Tuberculosis, gonorrhea, CRE - carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae)

Communicable Disease Screening  
(e.g., Chlamydia, HIV, pertussis)

## Why Discuss the OSPHL?

The OSPHL would like to contract as an in-network laboratory services provider with the CCOs to support communicable disease detection and control related to conditions of public health significance.

## Timeline of OSPHL Relationship with CCOs

2013 – Outreach to CCOs to determine if contracts were needed to provide services for CCO members. No CCOs required contracts.

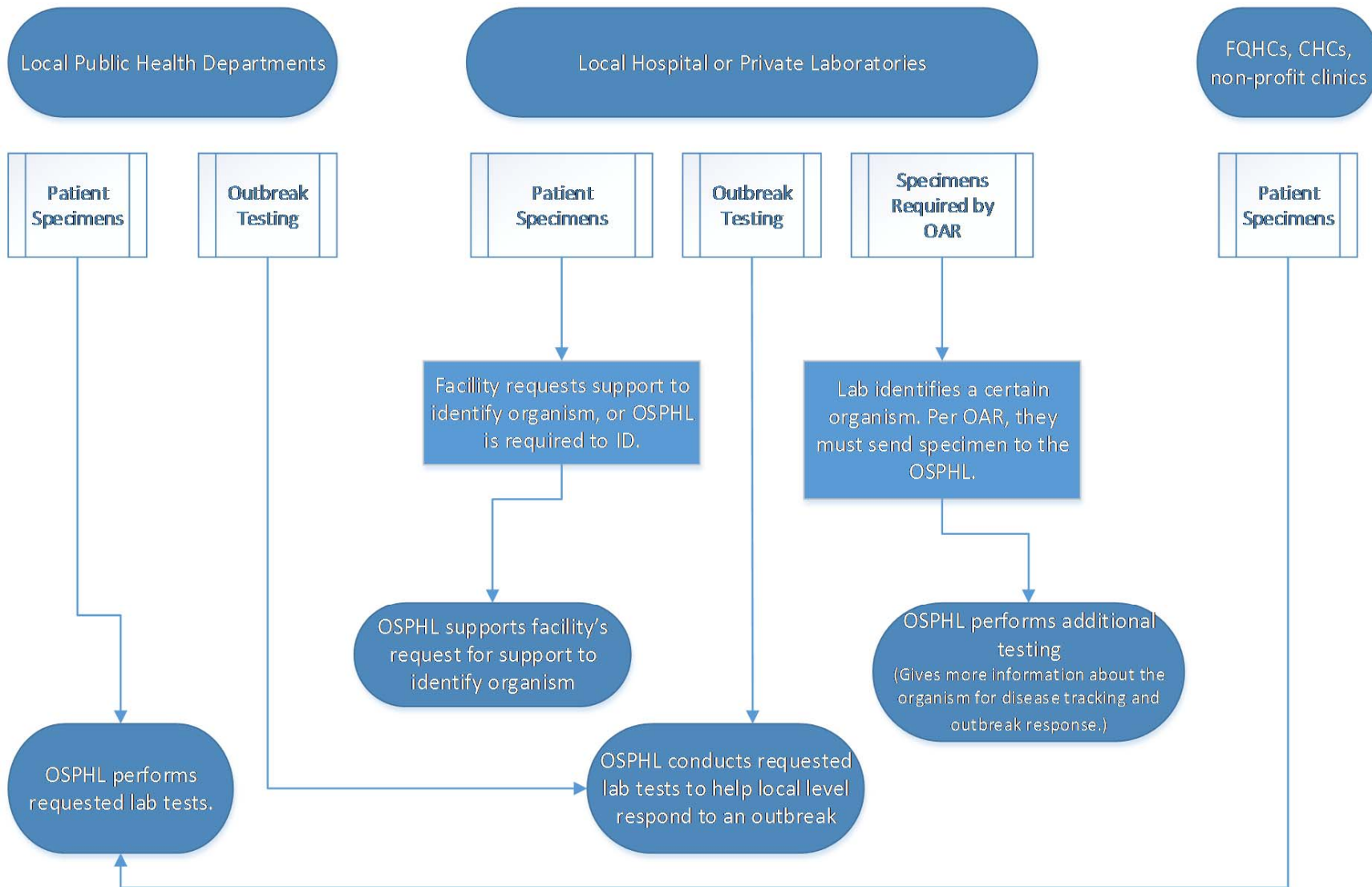
2013-2016 – Billing to CCOs and receiving payments

Summer 2016 – Began receiving denials from one CCO for non-participating provider – unable to resolve.

Spring 2017 – Started receiving claim denials from a second CCO for non-participating provider.

# OSPHL Relationships with Local Health Departments and Local Laboratories

The OSPHL provides support.



## OSPHL Statutory Authority:

ORS 431.142 – “Communicable disease control programs...must identify, prevent, and control infectious diseases that pose a threat to the health of the public and must include... “conducting, receiving and analyzing laboratory results...”

ORS 431A.750 – “For the better protection of the public health, the laboratory of the Oregon Health Authority shall make examinations of water, milk, blood, secretions, tissues or environmental samples required by any state or local agency in Oregon.”

ORS 433.012 – “The Oregon Health Authority shall provide the necessary laboratory examinations requested by local health departments for the diagnosis of communicable diseases identified by rule of the authority to be a reportable disease.”