

New Hampshire: Laying the Preparedness Foundation with Detor

Innovations in Informatics: Laboratory Success Stories

In December 2025, the New Hampshire Public Health Laboratory and the Nashua Division of Public Health and Community Services became the first in the nation to establish clinical testing messaging via Detor, APHL's Electronic Test Order and Result intermediary. Their adoption of this solution has improved turn-around times for critical results and greatly reduced the need for manual data entry, ultimately saving the laboratory and clinics hundreds of hours a year.

The Situation

One of the defining lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic was that our mechanisms for sharing critical public health data were insufficient. The nation relied on data like positivity rates and testing volumes to inform policy, assess risks, identify hotspots, and try to mitigate spread. However, public health laboratories did not have a mature electronic messaging framework in place to communicate seamlessly with clinical care partners.

At the height of the pandemic, laboratories operated around the clock to perform testing, but they struggled to keep up with the ever-growing backlog of data; the primary bottleneck wasn't the testing itself, but instead the manual data entry required for every order and result.

The Solution

In December 2025, the New Hampshire Public Health Laboratory and Nashua Division of Public Health & Community Services became the first in the nation to use Detor for clinical testing, specifically sexually transmitted infections (STI) and tuberculosis (TB). The impact was immediate.

"Implementing Detor has transformed how we send, receive, and manage laboratory results. Direct connectivity with the New Hampshire Public Health Laboratory has virtually eliminated the need for manual data entry which significantly improved efficiency, enhanced data qual-

What is Detor?

Built on the AIMS Platform, Detor is a national electronic test order and result (ETOR) solution that bridges the gap between public health and clinical care. By acting as a centralized intermediary, Detor eliminates the need for multiple custom interfaces and replaces slower, error-prone manual processes such as paper or fax-based reporting.

Implementing Detor allows public health laboratories and healthcare organizations to plug into existing infrastructure and take advantage of shared resources, expertise, and technology across the public health landscape.

Detor benefits include:

- All users send and receive test orders and results in their preferred formats
- The need for resource-intensive data transformations or vocabulary mapping is eliminated; all translations happen seamlessly at the intermediary level
- With access to a technical assistance team for implementation, the need for onsite terminology and technical expertise is reduced
- As ongoing oversight is conducted by the centralized Detor team, internal monitoring and maintenance needs are alleviated
- Support available 24/7/365

New Hampshire: Laboratory Informatics Success Story

ity, and ensured secure delivery of results directly into patient charts,” says Flavia Martin, Deputy Chief Public Health Nurse for the City of Nashua Division of Public Health & Community Services.

Faster electronic reporting will support earlier interventions, reduce the risk of ongoing transmission, and enhance coordination between local providers and public health staff. While this implementation has streamlined daily testing and information sharing, having Detor in place also better prepares New Hampshire for a public health emergency like a pandemic should the need arise. Through their already established connection to Detor, they will be able to quickly accommodate large volumes of orders and results. Their connectivity puts them in a position to share life-saving data instantly—ensuring that in a time of crisis, the science is never slowed down by the paperwork.

Reflections

Through this partnership, New Hampshire is modernizing its laboratory data exchange. This allows public health professionals and healthcare providers to receive results faster, improve data accuracy, and respond more quickly to cases requiring follow-up, treatment, or contact tracing. Ultimately, this collaboration strengthens disease monitoring and ensures residents receive the timely care they need.

The New Hampshire implementation of Detor lays the foundation for the entire country. Because Detor is a centralized, shared solution, any laboratory or hospital that uses Detor for these tests in the future will benefit from the work done in New Hampshire.

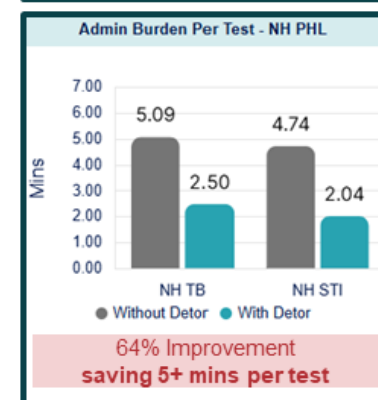
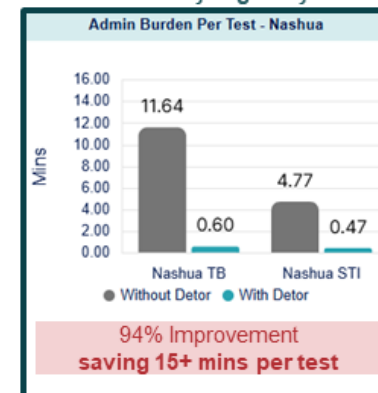
By leveraging Detor nationwide, public health laboratories and their healthcare partners across the U.S. can move away from manual and onerous methods. Today, sites that have implemented Detor see critical results delivered an average of 4 days faster. This digital transformation enables patients to receive the information they need to get the care that they need during their most vulnerable time.

Impact

Faster, more accurate, more efficient test orders and results.

Results are securely and immediately sent directly to the patient's chart.

Manual data entry is greatly reduced.



Share your laboratories' success stories!

Help us reveal what the public health community stands to lose without dedicated and long-term support. Share your story with APHL by scanning the QR code or visiting bit.ly/Lab-Informatics.



The *Innovations in Informatics: Laboratory Success Stories* series from the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) showcases innovations and enhancements in informatics, made possible by recent funding opportunities related to COVID-19, data modernization and public health infrastructure. It highlights the critical need for ongoing, targeted and sustainable informatics funding, while celebrating the progress that has been made.