

<b>Statement of Deficiencies</b>	<b>(X1) Provider/Supplier/CLIA Identification Number</b>  05D2154950	<b>(X3) Date Survey Completed</b>  09/26/2025
<b>Name of Provider or Supplier</b>  Altera Laboratory Services Llc	<b>Street Address, City, State</b>  2670 N Main St Ste 100, Santa Ana, CA	
For information on the provider's plan to correct this deficiency, please contact the provider or the state survey agency.		

<b>(X4) ID Prefix Tag</b>	<b>Summary Statement of Deficiencies</b>
<b>D5400</b>	<p><b>ANALYTIC SYSTEMS</b> CFR(s): 493.1250</p> <p>Each laboratory that performs nonwaived testing must meet the applicable analytic systems requirements in 493.1251 through 493.1283, unless HHS approves a procedure, specified in Appendix C of the State Operations Manual (CMS Pub.7), that provides equivalent quality testing. The laboratory must monitor and evaluate the overall quality of the analytic systems and correct identified problems as specified in 493.1289 for each specialty and subspecialty of testing performed.</p> <p>This CONDITION is not met as evidenced by: Based on severity of the deficiencies cited herein, the Condition for Analytic Systems was not met. The findings included: The Laboratory failed to establish and follow policies and procedures manuals for general laboratory systems, preanalytical, analytical, and post-analytical testing. See D5401</p>
<b>D5401</b>	<p><b>PROCEDURE MANUAL</b> CFR(s): 493.1251(a)</p> <p>(a) A written procedures manual for all tests, assays, and examinations performed by the laboratory must be available to, and followed by, laboratory personnel. Textbooks may supplement but not replace the laboratory's written procedures for testing or examining specimens.</p> <p>This STANDARD is not met as evidenced by: Based on interviews with laboratory staff and a review of the laboratory's policies and procedures manuals on September 26, 2025, it was determined that the Laboratory failed to have policies and procedures manuals for general laboratory systems, preanalytical, analytical, and post-analytical testing. The findings included: 1. It was</p>

the practice of the laboratory to perform molecular diagnostics to detect FLU A/B, RSV, and SARS-CoV-2. The laboratory performed testing using the non-FDA approved AllDxFlu/RSV/SARS-CoV2 qPCR Kit on the Quant Studio 5 analyzer, which was validated and implemented as a laboratory-developed test (LDT). 2. On September 26, 2025, at approximately 11:30 am, the laboratory staff confirmed that the laboratory did not have policies and procedures for general laboratory, preanalytical, analytical, and post-analytical systems. 3. The laboratory began testing patient samples on September 24, 2025, and reported 92 samples on September 27, 2025. Therefore, the accuracy of the laboratory's test results without written policy and procedure cannot be assured and may have potential to harm patients.

**D6076**

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR**  
CFR(s): 493.1441

The laboratory must have a director who meets the qualification requirements of 493.1443 of this subpart and provides overall management and direction in accordance with 493.1445 of this subpart.

This CONDITION is not met as evidenced by:  
Based on the number and severity of the deficiencies cited herein, the Condition: Laboratories performing high complexity testing; laboratory director was not met. The findings included: 1. The laboratory director failed to ensure that an approved procedure manual was established, followed, and accessible to all personnel involved in the testing process. See D5401 2. The laboratory director failed to ensure that the laboratory employed qualified technical supervisors, general supervisors, and testing personnel in the subspecialty of virology. See D6111, D6143, and D6170.

**D6079**

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES**  
CFR(s): 493.1445(a)(b)

The laboratory director is responsible for the overall operation and administration of the laboratory, including the employment of personnel who are competent to perform test procedures, record and report test results promptly, accurately and proficiently, and for assuring compliance with the applicable regulations. (a) The laboratory director, if qualified, may perform the duties of the technical supervisor, clinical consultant, general supervisor, and testing personnel, or delegate these responsibilities to personnel meeting the qualifications under 493.1447, 493.1453, 493.1459, and 493.1487 respectively. (b) If the laboratory director reapportions performance of his or her responsibilities, he or she remains responsible for ensuring that all duties are properly performed.

This STANDARD is not met as evidenced by:  
Based on the review of the laboratory's technical supervisors, general supervisors, and testing personnel qualifications, the laboratory's policies and procedures manuals, ninety-two (92) patient test results, and an interview with the laboratory staff on September 26, 2025, it was determined that the laboratory director (LD) failed to provide overall management and direction in accordance with 493.1445 of this subpart. The findings included: 1. The laboratory director failed to ensure that an approved procedure manual was established, followed, and accessible to all personnel

involved in the testing process. See D5401 2. The laboratory director failed to ensure that the laboratory employed qualified technical supervisors, general supervisors, and testing personnel in the subspecialty of virology. See D6111, D6143, and D6170.

**D6111**

**TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR QUALIFICATIONS**

CFR(s): 493.1449

(a) The technical supervisor must possess a current license issued by the State in which the laboratory is located, if such licensing is required; and (b) The laboratory may perform anatomic and clinical laboratory procedures and tests in all specialties and subspecialties of services except histocompatibility and clinical cytogenetics services provided the individual functioning as the technical supervisor-- (b)(1) Is a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (b)(2) Is certified in both anatomic and clinical pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology. (c) Bacteriology, Mycobacteriology, Mycology, Parasitology or Virology- If the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section are not met and the laboratory performs tests in the subspecialty of bacteriology, mycobacteriology, mycology, parasitology, or virology, the individual functioning as the technical supervisor must- (c)(1)(i) Be a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (c)(1)(ii) Be certified in clinical pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology; or (c)(2)(i) Be a doctor of medicine, doctor of osteopathy, or doctor of podiatric medicine licensed to practice medicine, osteopathy, or podiatry in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (c)(2)(ii) Have at least 1 year of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing within the specialty of microbiology with a minimum of 6 months of experience in high complexity testing within the applicable microbiology subspecialty; or (c)(3)(i)(A) Have an earned doctoral degree in a chemical, biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; or (c)(3)(i)(B) Meet the requirements in 493.1443(b)(3)(i)(B); and (c)(4)(ii) Have at least 2 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing within the specialty of microbiology with a minimum of 6 months experience in high complexity testing within the subspecialty of bacteriology; or (c)(3)(ii) Have at least 1 year of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing within the specialty of microbiology with a minimum of 6 months of experience in high complexity testing within the applicable subspecialty; or (c)(4)(i)(A) Have earned a master's degree in a chemical, biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; or (c)(4)(i)(B)(1) Meet bachelor's degree equivalency; and (c)(4)(i)(B)(2) Have at least 16 semester hours of additional graduate level coursework in chemical, biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology; or (c)(4)(i)(C)(1) Meet bachelor's degree equivalency; and (c)(4)(i)(C)(2) Have at least 16 semester hours in a combination of graduate level coursework in biology, chemistry, medical technology, or clinical or medical laboratory science coursework and an approved thesis or research project related to laboratory testing for the diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of any disease or impairment of, or the assessment of the health of, human beings; and (c)(4)(ii) Have at least 2 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing within the specialty of microbiology with a minimum of 6 months of experience in high complexity testing within the applicable subspecialty; or (c)(5)(i)(A) Have earned a bachelor's degree in a chemical, biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; or (c)(5)(i)(B) Have at least 120 semester hours, or equivalent, from an

accredited institution that, at a minimum, includes either- (c)(5)(i)(B)(1) 48 semester hours of medical laboratory technology courses; or (c)(5)(i)(B)(2) 48 semester hours of science courses that include- (c)(5)(i)(B)(2)(i) 12 semester hours of chemistry, which must include general chemistry and biochemistry or organic chemistry; (c)(5)(i)(B)(2)(ii) 12 semester hours of biology, which must include general biology and molecular biology, cell biology or genetics; and (c)(5)(i)(B)(2)(iii) 24 semester hours of chemistry, biology, or medical laboratory science or technology in any combination; and (c)(5)(ii) Have at least 4 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing within the specialty of microbiology with a minimum of 6 months of experience in high complexity testing within the applicable subspecialty. (d) Diagnostic Immunology, Chemistry, Hematology, Radiobioassay, or Immunohematology - If the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section are not met and the laboratory performs tests in the specialty of diagnostic immunology, chemistry, hematology, radiobioassay, or immunohematology, the individual functioning as the technical supervisor must- (d)(1)(i) Be a doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (d)(1)(ii) Be certified in clinical pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology; or (d)(2)(i) Be a doctor of medicine, doctor of osteopathy, or doctor of podiatric medicine licensed to practice medicine, osteopathy, or podiatry in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (d)(2)(ii) Have at least 1 year of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing for the applicable specialty; or (d)(3)(i)(A) Have an earned doctoral degree in a chemical, biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; or (d)(3)(i)(B) Meet the education requirement at 493.1443(b)(3)(i)(B); and (d)(3)(ii) Have at least 1 year of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing within the applicable specialty; or (d)(4)(i)(A) Have earned a master's degree in a chemical, biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; or (d)(4)(i)(B) Meet the education requirement at paragraphs (c)(4)(i)(B) or (C) of this section; and (d)(4)(ii) Have at least 2 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing for the applicable specialty; or (d)(5)(i)(A) Have earned a bachelor's degree in a chemical, biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; or (d)(5)(i)(B) Meet the education requirement at paragraph (c)(5)(i)(B) of this section; and (d)(5)(ii) Have at least 4 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing for the applicable specialty. (e) Cytology- If the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section are not met and the laboratory performs tests in the subspecialty of cytology, the individual functioning as the technical supervisor must- (e)(1)(i) Be a doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (e)(1)(ii) Be certified in anatomic pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology; or (e)(2) An individual qualified under paragraph (b) or (e)(1) of this section may delegate some of the cytology technical supervisor responsibilities to an individual who is in the final year of full-time training leading to certification specified in paragraph (b) or (e)(1)(ii) of this section provided the technical supervisor qualified under paragraph (b) or (e)(1) of this section remains ultimately responsible for ensuring that all of the responsibilities of the cytology technical supervisor are met. (f) Histopathology - If the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section are not met and the laboratory performs tests in the subspecialty of histopathology, the individual functioning as the technical supervisor must- (f)(1) Meet one of the following requirements: (f)(1)(i)(A) Be a doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (f)(1)(i)(B) Be certified

in anatomic pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology; or (f)(1)(ii) An individual qualified under paragraph (b) or (f)(1) of this section may delegate to an individual who is a resident in a training program leading to certification specified in paragraph (b) or (f)(1)(i)(B) of this section, the responsibility for examination and interpretation of histopathology specimens. (f)(2) For tests in dermatopathology, meet one of the following requirements: (f)(2)(i)(A) Be a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (f)(2)(i)(B) Meet one of the following requirements: (f)(2)(i)(B)(1) Be certified in anatomic pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology; or (f)(2)(i)(B)(2) Be certified in dermatopathology by the American Board of Dermatology and the American Board of Pathology; or (f)(2)(i)(B)(3) Be certified in dermatology by the American Board of Dermatology; or (f)(2)(ii) An individual qualified under paragraph (b) or (f)(2)(i) of this section may delegate to an individual who is a resident in a training program leading to certification specified in paragraph (b) or (f)(2)(i)(B) of this section, the responsibility for examination and interpretation of dermatopathology specimens. (f)(3) For tests in ophthalmic pathology, meet one of the following requirements: (f)(3)(i)(A) Be a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (f)(3)(i)(B) Must meet one of the following requirements: (f)(3)(i)(B)(1) Be certified in anatomic pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology; or (f)(3)(i)(B)(2) Be certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology and have successfully completed at least 1 year of formal post-residency fellowship training in ophthalmic pathology; or (f)(3)(ii) An individual qualified under paragraph (b) or (f)(3)(i) of this section may delegate to an individual who is a resident in a training program leading to certification specified in paragraph (b) or (f)(3)(i)(B) of this section, the responsibility for examination and interpretation of ophthalmic specimens; or (g) Oral Pathology- If the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section are not met and the laboratory performs tests in the subspecialty of oral pathology, the individual functioning as the technical supervisor must meet one of the following requirements: (g)(1)(i) Be a doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (g)(1)(ii) Be certified in anatomic pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology; or (g)(2) Be certified in oral pathology by the American Board of Oral Pathology; or (g)(3) An individual qualified under paragraph (b) or (g)(1) or (2) of this section may delegate to an individual who is a resident in a training program leading to certification specified in paragraph (b) or (g)(1) or (2) of this section, the responsibility for examination and interpretation of oral pathology specimens. (h) Histocompatibility - If the laboratory performs tests in the specialty of histocompatibility, the individual functioning as the technical supervisor must either- (h)(1)(i) Be a doctor of medicine, doctor of osteopathy, or doctor of podiatric medicine licensed to practice medicine, osteopathy, or podiatry in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (h)(1)(ii) Have training or experience that meets one of the following requirements: (h)(1)(ii)(A) Have 4 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, within the specialty of histocompatibility; or (h)(1)(ii)(B)(1) Have 2 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in the specialty of general immunology; and (h)(1)(ii)(B)(2) Have 2 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in the specialty of histocompatibility; or (h)(2)(i) Have an earned doctoral degree in a biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; or meet the education requirement at 493.1443(b)(3)(i)(B); and (h)(2)(ii) Have training or experience that meets one of the following requirements: (h)(2)(ii)(A) Have 4 years of laboratory training or

experience, or both, within the specialty of histocompatibility; or (h)(2)(ii)(B)(1) Have 2 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in the specialty of general immunology; and (h)(2)(ii)(B)(2) Have 2 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in the specialty of histocompatibility. (i) Clinical cytogenetics- If the laboratory performs tests in the specialty of clinical cytogenetics, the individual functioning as the technical supervisor must- (i)(1)(i) Be a doctor of medicine, doctor of osteopathy, or doctor of podiatric medicine licensed to practice medicine, osteopathy, or podiatry in the State in which the laboratory is located; and (i)(1)(ii) Have 4 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in genetics, 2 of which have been in clinical cytogenetics; or (i)(2)(i) Hold an earned doctoral degree in a biological science, including biochemistry, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; or meet the education requirement at 493.1443(b)(3)(i) (B); and (i)(2)(ii) Have 4 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in genetics, 2 of which have been in clinical cytogenetics. (j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an individual is considered qualified as a technical supervisor under this section if they were qualified and serving as a technical supervisor for high complexity testing in a CLIA-certified laboratory as of December 28, 2024, and have done so continuously since December 28, 2024.

This STANDARD is not met as evidenced by:  
Based on the review of the laboratory technical supervisor's (TS) state license and an interview with the laboratory staff on September 26, 2025, it was determined that the laboratory failed to employ individuals who are qualified by the State of California to provide technical supervision in the subspecialty of virology. The findings included:  
1. It was the practice of the laboratory to perform high complexity virology testing. TS must possess a current license issued by the State of California to qualify for testing in the specialty of microbiology. 2. On September 26, 2025, at approximately 11:30 am, the laboratory staff confirmed that TS possesses a California Clinical Laboratory Scientist license limited in chemistry.

**D6143**

**GENERAL SUPERVISOR QUALIFICATIONS**  
CFR(s): 493.1461

(a) The general supervisor must possess a current license issued by the State in which the laboratory is located, if such licensing is required; and (b) The general supervisor must be qualified as a-- (b)(1) Laboratory director under 493.1443; or (b)(2) Technical supervisor under 493.1449. (c) If the requirements of paragraph (b)(1) or (2) of this section are not met, the individual functioning as the general supervisor must-- (c)(1)(i) Be a doctor of medicine, doctor of osteopathy, or doctor of podiatric medicine licensed to practice medicine, osteopathy, or podiatry in the State in which the laboratory is located or have earned a doctoral, master's, or bachelor's degree in a chemical, biological, clinical or medical laboratory science, or medical technology from an accredited institution; and (c)(1)(ii) Have at least 1 year of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing; or (c)(2)(i) Qualify as testing personnel under 493.1489(b)(3); and (c)(2)(ii) Have at least 2 years of laboratory training or experience, or both, in high complexity testing; or (c)(3) Meet the requirements at 493.1443(b)(3) or 493.1449(c)(4) or (5); or (c)(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an individual is considered qualified as a general supervisor under this section if they were qualified and serving as a general supervisor in a CLIA-certified laboratory as of December 28, 2024, and have done so continuously since December 28, 2024. (d) For blood gas analysis, the individual providing general supervision must-- (d)(1) Be qualified under 493.1461(b)(1) or (2),

or 493.1461(c); or (d)(2)(i) Have earned a bachelor's degree in respiratory therapy or cardiovascular technology from an accredited institution; and (d)(2)(ii) Have at least one year of laboratory training or experience, or both, in blood gas analysis; or (d)(3) (i) Have earned an associate degree related to pulmonary function from an accredited institution; and (d)(3)(ii) Have at least two years of training or experience, or both in blood gas analysis. (e) The general supervisor requirement is met in histopathology, oral pathology, dermatopathology, and ophthalmic pathology because all tests and examinations, must be performed: (e)(1) In histopathology, by an individual who is qualified as a technical supervisor under 493.1449(b) or (f)(1); (e)(2) In dermatopathology, by an individual who is qualified as a technical supervisor under 493.1449(b) or 493.1449(f)(2); (e)(3) In ophthalmic pathology, by an individual who is qualified as a technical supervisor under 493.1449(b) or 493.1449(f)(3); and (e)(4) In oral pathology, by an individual who is qualified as a technical supervisor under 493.1449(b) or (g).

This STANDARD is not met as evidenced by:  
Based on the review of the laboratory general supervisor's (GS) state license and an interview with the laboratory staff on September 26, 2025, it was determined that the laboratory failed to employ individuals who are qualified by the State of California to provide general supervision in the subspecialty of virology. The findings included: 1. It was the practice of the laboratory to perform high complexity virology testing. GS must possess a current license issued by the State of California to qualify for testing in the specialty of microbiology. 2. On September 26, 2025, at approximately 11:30 am, the laboratory staff confirmed that the GS possesses a California Clinical Laboratory Scientist license limited in chemistry.

**D6170**

**TESTING PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS**  
CFR(s): 493.1489(a)

Each individual performing high complexity testing must-- (a) possess a current license issued by the State in which the laboratory is located, if such licensing is required; and

This STANDARD is not met as evidenced by:  
Based on the review of the laboratory testing personnel's (TP) state license, review of ninety-two (92) patient test results, and an interview with the laboratory staff on September 26, 2025, it was determined that the laboratory failed to employ individuals who are qualified by the State of California to perform testing in the specialty of microbiology. The findings included: 1. It was the practice of the laboratory to perform high-complexity tests within the subspecialty of virology under the broader specialty of microbiology. The testing personnel (TP) must hold a current California license that qualifies them to conduct tests within the microbiology specialty. Currently, the testing personnel possess a limited California license in the specialty of chemistry and are therefore not qualified to perform tests within the microbiology specialty. 2. On September 26, 2025, at approximately 11:30 am, the laboratory staff confirmed that TP is the sole clinical laboratory scientist at the lab and possesses a California Clinical Laboratory Scientist license limited in chemistry. 3. The laboratory reported 92 patient samples on September 27, 2025.