Sample Algorithm for Confidential Billing in Public Health Laboratory

1. **Does patient have insurance?**
   - Yes
     - Confidential Service Request as noted on Lab Slip by Clinic (i.e. patient does not consent to using insurance for this visit because of confidentiality concerns)
       - No
         - Medicaid
       - Yes
         - Does the patient qualify for grant funding?
           - Yes
             - Bill Federal/State Funds
           - No
             - Bill the clinic, bill the patient, or absorb costs
   - No
     - Private Insurance or Medicaid HMO such as (e.g. Blue Cross or Anthem)

2. **Private Insurance or Medicaid HMO such as (e.g. Blue Cross or Anthem)**
   - Yes
     - Medicaid
   - No
     - Bill 3rd Party Insurance

3. **Medicaid**
   - Bill Medicaid

4. **Medicaid**
   - Bill Medicaid

5. **Medicaid**
   - Bill Medicaid

Notes:
*Grant funding is different state by state and sometimes county by county.

**Check Medicaid and/or insurance EOB policy. Medicaid EOB policies vary by state. Services are considered confidential if EOB is not sent.

Adapted from: NCSD/APHL, ‘Moving Toward Third-Party Billing and Revenue Generation in Public Health: An Emerging Model from Michigan.’