







July 2017

New Skin Prick Testing Protocol

Following a period of consultation, it has been decided to trial a new way of ordering skin prick testing at Pathlab.

A link to the <u>skin prick testing referral form</u> has been placed on the <u>front page</u> of the Pathlab website. It is now live and available for use.

This new form can be downloaded, completed, and either faxed or emailed back to Pathlab (the forwarding details are included on the form). It will then be approved by the Immunology department with the input of a pathologist if necessary. Pathlab will then contact the patient to organise an appointment for the skin prick testing. If there are any issues with the referral, we will contact the requestor to discuss further.

The form includes tick boxes for all the skin prick allergens routinely available at Pathlab. It also requires the requestor to complete the clinical indication for testing. The form includes questions that ensure there are no contraindications to the skin prick testing from both a quality and safety point of view. At the bottom of the form, there is a consent section for the patient to sign.

From **31**st **July 2017**, requestors will no longer be able to request skin prick testing on a normal laboratory request form, and will be mandated to utilise the <u>skin prick testing referral form</u>.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions with regards to this new approach.

Please ensure all members of your institution receive a copy of this clinical update.

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