



Skin Prick Testing for Allergy - Change to Testing Locations

From **1st March 2016**, skin prick testing for allergy ordered through Pathlab Waikato will only be performed at the following sites:

- **Thames:** 817 Rolleston Street 07 867 9100
- **Matamata:** 56 Rawhiti Avenue 07 881 9107
- **Hamilton:** Anglesea Clinic 58 Tristram Street. 07 858 0796

The administration and reading of these tests requires a considerable amount of training and experience. Test volumes for skin prick testing in some areas of the Waikato region are relatively small. As a consequence, a significant number of staff members perform less than the recommended numbers of tests that are required to retain optimal competency.

This issue was raised by our laboratory accreditation body, IANZ. In response to this, we have decided to restrict skin prick testing for allergy to the above collection centres.

Skin prick testing is by appointment only. The appropriate collection rooms should be contacted beforehand to arrange a time for testing and to ensure the patient receives the correct information in preparation for the test.

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CLINICAL UPDATE