

Venesection Information for Iron Overload Patients

Pathlab has received a referral from your doctor requesting that we arrange therapeutic venesection for you. We provide venesection services at many of our locations throughout Waikato.

One of our team will contact you via text or a phone call to inform you of when your first venesection is due and also your initial venesection frequency. Please then make an appointment at your local collection centre at a suitable date and time.

If you are just starting your venesection programme you will likely be asked to make appointments every 1-2 weeks until your ferritin (iron) levels fall to the desired level (<50ug/l). Once your ferritin levels are within your treatment range, we will change the frequency of your venesections to keep your ferritin within a target range of 50-100ug/l. This frequency differs from person to person and can be anywhere from every two months to just once a year. We will notify you of any changes either by text or phone call. Each time you have a venesection performed we will also check your full blood count and ferritin levels to help guide the frequency of your venesections.

Your referring doctor remains overall responsible for your care if you have concerns about your haemochromatosis/iron overload.

If you need to change appointments at any time, please contact your local collection room or our main collection centre in Hamilton (07 8580799).