



COVID-19 Level 4 Laboratory Services

Hospital and community laboratories nationwide have been instructed to reduce non-essential testing in efforts to conserve reagents, cope with staff shortages and mobilise the workforce for COVID-19.

Reduction in Community Collection Facilities

With the move to Alert Level 4 at 11.59pm Tuesday August 17th, there will be closures of a few of our collection facilities, as follows:

Bay of Plenty CLOSED FACILITIES

Baymed Otumoetai Welcome Bay

Waikato CLOSED FACILITIES

Glenview	Neville Kane Pharmacy	St Andrews	Flagstaff
Fairfield	Hamilton East	Davies Cnr	Huntly East
Morrinsville – Dallas	Te Awamutu – Mahoe	Te Kauwhata	Waihi Beach

Lakes CLOSED FACILITIES

Te Ngae Ngongotaha

Please note: These rooms will NOT be opening in the weekends. For any urgent collects required on weekends, your patients are asked to visit the main reception at your local hospital and the on-call service will be contacted.

Domiciliary Home Visits - This service has been suspended until further notice unless deemed urgent essential care.

Courier Services - Unless otherwise notified, our current courier service to your practice will continue.

Reduction in Laboratory Requests

We ask all clinicians to immediately reconsider or reduce the frequency of laboratory tests that are non-essential, discretionary, routine or can be delayed.

FNAs, bone marrows and skin allergies will require pre-approval by a pathologist and will be restricted to only where absolutely clinically necessary.

Venesections testing will only be of Primary Polycythaemia & Ferritin >1000 or as directed by a Haematologist.

We appreciated your understanding and assistance in this unusual time and thank those of you who are already doing this or planning to. This is an evolving situation and further notifications may follow.

Dianne McQueen
Chief Executive

CLINICAL UPDATE

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

All Clinical Updates are on the Clinician page on our website. www.pathlab.co.nz