

Memo

To: LabPLUS Customers

From: Department of Virology and Immunology

Date: 24 May 2021

Subject: Respiratory serology (antibody testing): Discontinuation of service

Dear Customer

We are in the process of reviewing our test menu for infectious serology.

Over the last 10-15 years molecular testing has been replacing serology for the acute detection of many infectious diseases. Due to the non-specific nature of many tests and the possibility a positive result may reflect exposure to the agent at any point in time, there are difficulties inherent in using serology to imply recent past infection.

Consequently, many currently performed serological tests are insufficiently accurate for clinical decision making and may lead to erroneous management. So far, we have identified that we are offering several tests which are now considered to be of largely historical interest due to their poor sensitivity and specificity.

Therefore, effective 30 July 2021 the following antibody tests will be discontinued in their entirety:

All of the following tests will be un-orderable and requests received after the stipulated date will not be referred to other testing sites:

Mycoplasma pneumoniae IgG and IgM

Chlamydia pneumoniae IgG and IgA

Bordetella pertussis IgA

Respiratory viruses – Adenovirus, RSV, Influenza A, Influenza B.

If further information is required please contact:

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