

## Blood Collection

### About your Test

The collection of blood samples is a standard procedure carried out by trained staff. Although the majority of patients will have no side effects, a small number may experience some discomfort.

This information is provided to answer any questions you may have regarding side effects and to advise you of any actions you should take over the days following the blood collection.

### Bruising

A small bruise which appears at the venepuncture site is usually due to blood leaking from the hole in the vein into surrounding tissue, after the blood collection. Applying pressure to the site immediately after the collection should help prevent this type of bruise.

It is important the firm pressure is applied for at least three minutes or longer.

A small bruise will disappear in a few days and requires no attention.

### Haematoma (lump or large bruise)

A haematoma or lump with associated bruising may occur during the collection of a blood sample. It is a recognised complication of the procedure, but it occurs in less than 0.1% of collects. If this occurs apply pressure for up to 5 minutes and then apply ice for another 5 minutes.

The site may be sore for a few days and bruising may last for about 10 days, but there will be no lasting side effects.