Change to eOrder Laboratory Request Expiry

1 December 2026

Under the current process, unused, one-off laboratory requests remain active for six months before being removed from the laboratory system. During this time, patients may accumulate multiple requests, resulting in duplicate testing, outdated investigations being performed, and confusion about which request is most clinically relevant.

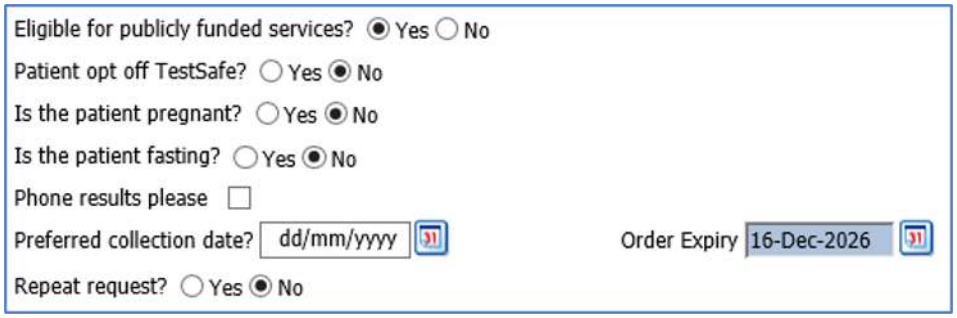
The primary purpose of laboratory testing is to support clinical decision-making within the context of a recent consultation. As time passes, a patient's condition, symptoms, treatment plan, and clinical priorities may change significantly.

Following feedback received from referrers and clinical staff the following changes will be implemented, effective 1 December 2026:

- Urgent requests will expire 7 days after the request date.
- An optional Order Expiry field will be added to the eOrder form.
- Standard one-off requests: will expire 90 days from the request date **unless:**
    - *Preferred Collection Date is used* - if entered, the order expiry will be automatically set to 90 days after the Preferred Collection Date



    - *Order Expiry Date is used* - clinicians can specify an expiry date for requests that need to remain available longer, within the system's permitted timeframe.



- Repeat or serial requests remain available for repeat collections for up to 12 months unless otherwise stated.
- Requests from the same practice but different clinician would no longer be merged.

For any questions or assistance please contact Tash Bambry, Regional Relationship Manager – Te Waipounamu : tash.bambry@awanuilabs.co.nz