

## Welcome to Southern Community Laboratories

Providing pathology services to the Hawke's Bay  
region

### Online Specimen Collection Guide

It's alive! Our online Specimen Collection Guide is now live on our website. This is your new, searchable, up to date source of knowledge for all things specimen collection.

<https://www.hawkesbayscl.co.nz/referrers/specimen-collection/>

**\*PLEASE DESTROY ANY PAPER COPIES OF OUR OLD SPECIMEN COLLECTION GUIDE\***

Tip- some web browsers play better than others with the guide. If you do experience any issues, try a different web browser e.g. Google Chrome.

### Stores ordering

Don't forget ordering of specimen collection consumables is now available via our website

<https://www.hawkesbayscl.co.nz/referrers/order-laboratory-consumables/>

Note that routine orders may sometimes take up to 3 working days for dispatch and delivery. Please call us if your order is urgent.

### ANZAC weekend closure

As usual, we are closed over ANZAC weekend. We close Friday 23rd April at 6 pm, and reopen Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 am.

- No routine collection, courier, or testing services will be available from SCL.
- **Testing for urgent samples is available via Hasting Hospital Lab.** Urgent samples should be clearly marked as such, placed in a Red Bag and sent to the Hospital Laboratory by taxi.
- **Please do not collect routine samples over ANZAC weekend, as most will be unsuitable for processing when normal services resume on Tuesday.** Urgent Microbiology requests must be clearly identified as such, or they will not be processed on arrival at Hastings Hospital Laboratory even if sent by taxi.



### Cash collection for unfunded tests

For non-DHB funded tests, the vast majority of our patients choose to pay by EFTPOS. So from Friday 30th of April we are going cashless at our Collection Centres. When referring patients for unfunded tests, please advise that payment is by EFTPOS or online banking.

# Lab Update April 2021



## Reminder - emailed request forms

We set up a system for email of lab request forms during Covid-19 lockdown last year, to help facilitate remote GP consultations. This was never intended as a permanent replacement for paper request forms, but some practices have taken to emailing request forms to us even after face-to-face patient consultations. This creates a significant administrative burden for us, and increases patient waiting times in our collection centres.

- **Wherever possible please give your patient a paper request form.**
- **Even better, if this is possible for your surgery, use eOrders.**

## Home visit requests are unaffected– please email as before

Purpose	Email address
Home visit requests	<a href="mailto:hbayhomevisit@sclabs.co.nz">hbayhomevisit@sclabs.co.nz</a>
General enquiries	<a href="mailto:hbay@sclabs.co.nz">hbay@sclabs.co.nz</a>