

24 March 2020

Dear Referrer

RE: Collection Centre Closures – Northland Pathology

Some of our collection centres reside within GP practices and we have been asked to suspend our services in line with the policies of the practice.

Having reviewed the availability of our remaining phlebotomy workforce given current levels of sick leave, the COVID-19 Level 3 / 4 Alert criteria and self-isolation requirements, Northland Pathology has determined it is time to implement our pandemic plan and limit the number of collection centres in operation. The decision to close a centre is made on the basis of our inability to maintain safe staffing levels. As such we can redeploy staff from centres which are closed to nearby centres that remain open, to allow us to maximise our capability to provide a service and manage patients safely.

As the situation develops, we need to ensure messaging is clear and consistent for our staff, referrers and patients. Therefore, we intend that once a collection centre is closed, it will remain closed until further notice.

We regret the inconvenience to those who will attend a collection centre that has closed and would appreciate your assistance in informing your patients.

The centres that are remaining open are:

- 11 Rust Avenue, Whangarei (7.30am – 5.30pm)
- Homestead Road, Kerikeri (8am - 3pm)

Please note that our courier schedules and specimen pick-ups at surgeries and rest homes have not changed at this time.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation at this challenging time.

Yours faithfully

Remeny Weber
Laboratory Manager,
Northland Pathology
Remeny.weber@norpath.co.nz
027 604 5214