

SA Pathology Newsletter January 2021

Australia Day Honours recognition



SA Pathology's Sarah Moore was awarded the Public Service Medal for outstanding public service to cancer pathology science in South Australia in the Australia Day 2021 Honours List.

Sarah served as the Head of the Cancer Cytogenetics laboratory at SA Pathology, providing outstanding service to South Australian and interstate patients with cancer and blood cancers.

Sarah was recognised for her demonstrated leadership at a state, national and international level over a career spanning 40 years, and is internationally recognised in the field of Cancer Cytogenetics, evidenced by her appointment to the International Cytogenomics Nomenclature System Standing Committee. She is also a member of the Board of Censors of the Australian Society of Diagnostic Genomics, and an examiner for the Australasian Society of Human Genetics. Sarah established in-house triage and testing protocols for malignant bone marrow and blood samples, and ensured innovative cytogenetic tests to predict the prognosis for patients with solid tumours are available to South Australians. She has mentored young scientists, technical staff and trainee pathologists. Her skills as a Clinical Scientist are valued by South Australian and interstate clinicians involved in cancer care, particularly those in the disciplines of clinical and laboratory haematology and oncology.

Sarah epitomises the finest qualities of a public pathology scientist. Throughout her career she implemented the highest standard of diagnostics, teaching, training and research, and delivered positive health outcomes for the community of South Australia.

SA Pathology and Flinders University Emeritus Professor Peter John Roberts-Thomson was also awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for his significant service to medical education, and to immunology.

Peter was recognised for his wonderful contributions to



immunology, rheumatology and medicine in South Australia, and his key role as the inaugural Immunology Clinical Director at SA Pathology.

Peter is much admired by his peers both nationally and internationally, with many SA Pathology staff benefiting from his mentorship over the years.

Digital capture of requests for COVID-19 collection sites



SA Pathology staff at a number of COVID-19 collection sites have seen the benefits of a new system which has streamlined the testing process.

SA Pathology, in collaboration with the SA Health Community Testing Work Stream, has launched a new purpose-built digital system to capture patient information at COVID-19 collection sites. The system shares information in 'real-time' with the Communicable Disease Control Branch (CDCB) and with the SA Pathology laboratory at the point of collection, aiding rapid contact tracing and management by CDCB.

The system uses iPads to collect and validate people's details. It prints a bar-coded specimen label and a request form, and all details are uploaded electronically. This removes the need for manual data entry of requests when they reach the laboratory, speeding up the processing of samples.

A printed slip with a QR code is given to the person being tested to provide evidence they have been swabbed, it also allows their patient details to be instantly uploaded at their next visit.

To date the system has been implemented at Port Adelaide, Hampstead, Victoria Park and Adelaide Airport, with positive feedback received from both staff and the public.

There's still time to help us improve our website



In our December newsletter we included a link where you can provide your feedback on our current website, and help us to identify how we can improve your experience. We understand that we caught you at a busy time and you may not have had a chance to complete the survey, but there's still time.

We're committed to delivering continual improvement across our services, including the development of a new website. We've partnered with KWP! to develop a quick survey, ensuring we can deliver the information you need in a user-friendly format.

There is an option to discuss your feedback further with KWP! if you agree to follow-up contact.

Thank you in advance for your time, and we look forward to receiving your survey response.

[Complete survey](#)

Change in provider of pathology collection consumables

Current Tube	BD Vacutainer® Tube	Volume	Instructions
		2.7ml	Check that the blood is drawn to the correct level. Do not overfill.
		6.5ml	
		6.2ml	
		10.0ml	
		4.0ml	
		6.0ml	
		2.0ml	

Following a health-wide tender, SA Pathology now uses Becton Dickinson (BD) as the principal supplier of pathology collection consumables, including adult blood collection tubes, and blood collection needles, holders and transfer devices.

Rollout of the new phlebotomy consumables to General Practitioners will commence on 1 February 2021.

Click the button below for more information or to watch a video on the use of the BD Vacutainer® UltraTouch Blood collection set.

[More information](#)

New streamlined reporting

From Thursday 4 February 2021 SA Pathology will report Complete Blood Examination (CBE) and Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate (ESR) test results on separate reports. This change will apply in both hard copy and electronic environments, providing clinicians with a more refined and user-friendly result format.

SA Pathology is committed to providing a customer focused and user-friendly consumer experience, including the provision of streamlined reports to clinicians.

To discuss this change, or any other aspect of your user experience, please contact the SA Pathology marketing team at health.sapathologymarketing@sa.gov.au.

CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

SA Pathology has been at the forefront of the response to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Our team of dedicated clinicians, scientists, technicians, nurses and support staff are working 24/7 to ensure the health and wellbeing of all South Australians.

Visit our COVID-19 webpage to find the latest information, health updates and resources on COVID-19.

[Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

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