

SA Pathology Newsletter August 2021



Book online to skip the queue

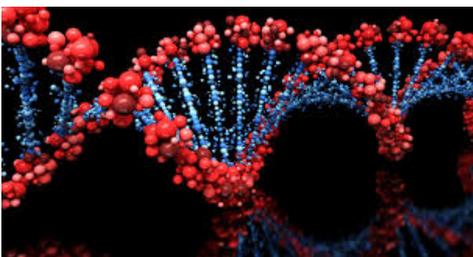


Last month we launched a new online test booking system at our [Ridgehaven Waterworld](#) and [Repat Health Precinct](#) COVID-19 drive-through collection centres. We saw an immediate and significant reduction in wait times at these sites.

We have now rolled out the booking system to our [Port Adelaide \(Mundy St\)](#) and [Regency Park](#) drive-through collection centres, as well as our 24 hour [Victoria Park Pakapakanthi](#) drive-through between 10 am and 8 pm, bookings outside of these hours are not required.

SA Pathology typically returns COVID-19 results in under 24 hours from test collection. Negative test results are sent via SMS direct to the patient on their nominated mobile phone number, with a copy sent to their nominated GP where these details are provided.

Genomics offers fresh hope for blood cancer patients



SA Pathology will provide critical molecular screening for a clinical trial research program aiming to offer people living with blood cancer access to genomic screening, potentially leading to accessing precision medicines.

High-grade lymphomas and acute leukaemias are aggressive blood cancers, with few treatment options available to patients living with relapsed or refractory disease. By linking genomic profiles with a series of research treatments, this new program could offer fresh hope for those living with these advanced cancer forms.

The research program aims to match the patients' tumour profile with available and promising treatments. This could be a standard treatment, a treatment offered by MOST-LLy, or a treatment offered by another clinical trial.

The first treatment to be tested in MOST-LLy is for aggressive lymphoma, and other treatments for other blood cancers will follow later this year. The program will also research biomarkers of response or resistance to treatments to further develop precision-based therapy options.

Co-funded by the Leukaemia Foundation and Tour de Cure, the \$1.8m pilot program allows the screening of 240 patients initially in Brisbane and, soon, Adelaide, with SA Pathology providing the molecular screening across both states.

Screening is now open to patients in Brisbane and the RAH is expected to open to recruitment later this year, while a \$2.7m grant through the Federal Government's Medical Research Future Fund will see the project expanded across Australia from next year.

Leukaemia Foundation CEO Chris Tanti said with more than 50 Australians diagnosed with blood cancer every day, the importance of improving access to genomic screening and clinical trials could not be overstated.

"If we are to have any hope of reducing blood cancer mortality in this country, we must shift our focus away from treating blood cancer subtypes with a 'one size fits all' approach and towards targeted therapies," he said.

"Genomic testing illuminates the best treatment path for each individual, and the potential for delivering precision medicine tailored to them may result in improved survival, less side effects than some traditional treatment options, less time spent in treatment and greater quality of life."

Interested patients should discuss this trial with their haematologist. Further information on the trial is available on the [Leukaemia Foundation](#) website.

New collection centres

SA Pathology will open three new collection centres spanning South Australia in the coming weeks:



Hawkins Medical Clinic, 30 Sturt Street Mount Gambier, operating Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4.30 pm, and Saturday 8 am to 11am.

SA Pathology has been part of the Mount Gambier community for over 60 years, and over 85% of tests requested locally are performed in our Mount Gambier laboratory.



Paragon Health Centre, Level 1, 97-99 Smart Road, Modbury, operating Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm.

The new state-of-the-art medical facility offers a range of general, specialist and allied health services to patients in the northern suburbs.

Here's a sneak peek of the new site taken during the construction phase.

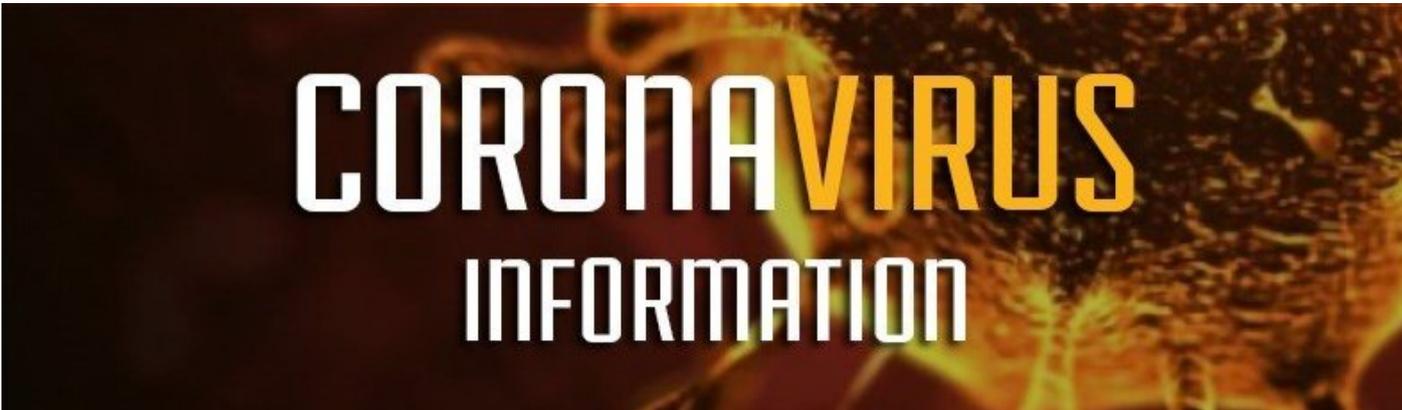


Rosewater Family Practice, 54 Grand Junction Road, Rosewater.

The centre will operate Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 8.30 am and 12.30 pm.

All SA Pathology [collection centres](#) are open to the public, providing quality diagnostic pathology services for all South Australians.

SA Pathology accepts all pathology request forms.



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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