

SA Pathology Newsletter June 2021

Detector dogs help defend against COVID-19



Alex Withers SA Metropolitan Fire Service, Dr Tom Dodd SA Pathology, Professor Nicola Spurrier SA Health, Dr Anne-Lise Chaber University of Adelaide with detection dog Cuba.

This month, six COVID-19 Detector Dogs began work at the Adelaide Airport as part of an exciting joint project between SA Pathology, the University of Adelaide and Australian Border Force.

The six Labradors were selected from 18 Labradors and Spaniels who have undergone extensive training over the past six months as part of an international research alliance led out of France and coordinated in Australia by the University of Adelaide's School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences.

The dogs are trained to detect odours which are produced by an infected person even before they develop symptoms, and in COVID-positive patients who are asymptomatic. During the initial trial period, sweat is collected onto a gauze swab placed under the traveller's armpit which is then put into a funnel for the dogs to smell. Once the dog has identified a COVID-positive sample, it will sit in front of that funnel.

Initially passengers will be voluntarily swabbed as they exit the plane and the sample will then go to a separate area where the dogs are located. It is anticipated that once the initial trials are complete, the program will roll out to enable the identification of COVID-19 positive passengers in real-time.

COVID-19 detector dogs provide an innovative and crucial line of defence against the virus as our borders reopen. They are a reliable, repeatable, cheap, easy and fast way to screen or pre-screen potential cases.

SA Pathology and the University of Adelaide's School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences have worked with Australian Border Force, the Commonwealth Department for Agriculture, Water and the Environment; and the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service for several months on the study.

The dogs will stay at the ABF dog facility when they're not on duty with their handlers.



Australian Border Force's Lisa Saunders and detection dog Matilda run through their paces at the Adelaide Airport.

First International Neonatal Screening Day



On Monday 28 June 2021, SA Pathology was proud to celebrate the inaugural International Neonatal Screening Day, recognising more than 50 years of newborn screening.

SA Pathology's Newborn Screening Laboratory has proudly performed screening tests for babies born in South Australia, lower part of the Northern Territory and Tasmania since the 1970s at the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide.

Newborn screening has been a truly revolutionary milestone in public health, providing life changing benefits for children who are identified and treated before the devastating effects of serious conditions that can cause irreversible damage and in some cases death.

SA Pathology currently screens for more than 25 different disorders for which in many there is a successful treatment. These conditions including congenital hypothyroidism, cystic fibrosis, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, galactosaemias, amino acid disorders, fatty acid oxidation disorders and organic acid disorders.

Newborn screening was pioneered by Dr Robert Guthrie in the mid 1960s with the invention of a test for phenylketonuria (PKU) using a revolutionary dried whole blood collection on filter paper which became known as the Guthrie card – a means by which samples can be collected and transported safely and cheaply to laboratories for testing. His work is still evident in neonatal screening programs across the globe where over 40 million babies are screened annually.

The date 28 June, Dr Guthrie's birthday, honours his lifetime's work improving health outcomes for millions of babies.

Translated resources

Glucose Tolerance Test (GTT) - Chinese / 中文

患者须知
葡萄糖耐量试验 (GTT)

请致电 SA Pathology 8222 3000 预约请领测试。

准备您的测试

该试验测量您的身体对葡萄糖（糖）的代谢程度。为把测试准确，在测试前的一周内不要改变您平时的饮食。

您必须在空腹的情况下，测试会在早上进行，您需从前一天晚上开始禁食。

如果您上夜班，我们可以安排适合您的时间。

如果您做过真胃手术我们建议在测试前与您的医生确认，您是否适合进行此项测试或是否存在血糖异常的风险，如果您做过真胃手术请告知工作人员。

请您认真执行以下内容

1. 测试前您必须禁食10个小时。
 - 1. 禁食的时间必须是10个小时。
2. 您的禁食通常从早上9点或10点开始，这意味着前一天晚上11点开始不能吃东西。您只能喝水。
3. 吸烟会影响您的血糖值 - 不要吸烟。
4. 测试前至少2天不要喝咖啡或茶。
5. 有压力的活动或改变您的血糖值，因此整个测试过程中您必须保持冷静。

禁食期间您必须禁食10-12个小时内不要运动。

进行您的测试

1. 测试开始前禁食两个小时，整个测试期间您必须留在检查中心，您必须以医生的一些指导。
2. 您需要在15分钟内喝下一份葡萄糖溶液，之后我们抽取您的血液样本进行分析。
3. 测试期间您只能喝水。

测试结果

您医生收到测试结果后会通知您。

预约信息

预约请致电 SA Pathology 8222 3000。
日期 _____
姓名 _____

重要信息

请致电 www.sapathology.sa.gov.au 或
致电 (08) 8222 3000 联系负责您中心的
地址及最新的开放时间。

1-800-000-0000
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预约电话 8222 3000 For our patients and our population www.sapathology.sa.gov.au
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SA Pathology is committed to providing information and services in a non-discriminatory and accessible way, ensuring everyone receives the highest quality patient care.

We now offer the following patient preparation guides in Arabic, Chinese, Dari and Vietnamese:

- 24 Hour Urine Test
- Faecal Occult Blood Test
- Glucose Tolerance Test (GTT)
- Micro Urine Collection
- Urea Breath Test

The [patient preparation guides](#) are available for download on the [SA Pathology website](#).

New collection centres

SA Pathology has opened three more collection centres, making it even easier to access quality pathology diagnostic services in South Australia.



Our new Millicent collection centre is located within the Medical Clinic Millicent, 10 Short Street, Millicent.

The centre operates Monday to Friday between 8 am and 5 pm, and Saturday 8 am to 11 am.



We've also opened two new collection centres in Mawson Lakes.

The first is located within the Mawson Lakes Healthcare centre, 50 Mawson Lakes Boulevard, Mawson Lakes.

The centre operates Monday to Friday, 8 am to noon.



The second is located within the Northern Specialist Suites, HMH Towers, Level 1, 42-48 Garden Terrace, Mawson Lakes.

The centre operates Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 12.30 pm.

Our new collection centres are open to the public and accept all pathology request forms.

Head to our [website](#) for more [collection centre locations](#).

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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SA Pathology
PO Box 14 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5001

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