

SA Pathology Newsletter March 2021



Omega-3 status testing for pregnant women



SA Pathology is proud to partner with the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI), providing vital testing to reduce the incidence of premature births in South Australia.

From 19 April, SA Pathology will begin testing omega-3 levels for women with single baby pregnancies, with the data informing a world-leading study assessing the efficacy of omega-3 supplementation in reducing early preterm births.

Testing is provided at no cost, and patients may opt-out of the statewide evaluation of the screening program without affecting the provision of care.

The latest National Health and Medical Research Council and Department of Health National Pregnancy Care guidelines recommend assessing omega-3 fatty acid status and supplementing pregnant women with low omega-3 intakes to reduce the risk of early preterm birth.

- Pregnant women with a low omega-3 status, less than 3.7%, are recommended to take omega-3 fatty acid supplements from less than 20 to 37 weeks to reduce the risk of early preterm birth.
- Women in the moderate range, 3.7 - 4.3%, are not required to take a supplement however if already taking supplements may continue to do so.
- Women with sufficient omega-3, above 4.3%, are at a low risk of early preterm birth and additional omega-3 supplementation may increase this risk.

For further information about omega-3 testing and results interpretation, please visit www.sahmri.org/omega3.

To order the maternal serum screening test request forms, please call the SAMSAS Program on (08) 8161 7285.



New fax cover page

SA Pathology

Test Laboratory

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Reports to Follow:

Report Title	Pages
REPORT803077417E [REDACTED]	1
R387075721-084 [REDACTED] SAP-7 [REDACTED] I27485772402363DR CLIENT COMMERCIAL4094322	1
REPORT803077415F [REDACTED]	1
R397075721-084 [REDACTED] SAP-7 [REDACTED] I27393192402363DR CLIENT COMMERCIAL4094322	1
REPORT803077416E [REDACTED]	1
R307075721-084 [REDACTED] SAP-7 [REDACTED] I27393322402363DR CLIENT COMMERCIAL4094322	1

Improvements being made to our EPLIS results delivery system will ensure all SA Pathology test results sent via fax will include a cover sheet from Tuesday 6 April.

The system-generated cover sheet aims to assist in the immediate identification of transmission receipt issues, providing a list of reports included in the fax, the total number of pages and a unique fax reference number.

Transmission errors can be reported to 8222 3000, quoting the unique fax reference number.

New collection centres open at Aldgate and Goolwa



On Wednesday 10 March, SA Pathology opened a new patient centre in the Hills Medical Centre, 15 Fenchurch Road, Aldgate.

The new patient centre provides valuable pathology services to patients in the Adelaide Hills and demonstrates SA Pathology's commitment to work closely with health practitioners for the better health of all South Australians.

The centre operates Monday to Friday, between 8 am and 4 pm (closed noon to 12.30 pm), and Saturday from 9 am to noon.



On Monday 22 March, SA Pathology relocated its Goolwa patient centre just 20 metres down the road to Shop 4, 24 Cadell Street, Goolwa.

The new signage, featuring the historic Victor Harbor horse drawn tram, proudly celebrates our connection to the local community. In fact, 70% of all tests collected at the Goolwa collection centre are performed by local staff in our Victor Harbor laboratory.

The centre operates Monday to Friday, between 7.30 am and 4.30 pm (closed 12.30 to 1 pm), and Saturday from 8 am to noon.

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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