



Shared Pathology Partnership

We would like to introduce the Alfred Health and Monash Health Shared Pathology Partnership

Alfred Health and Monash Health are working together to strengthen public pathology services in south east Melbourne and our wider catchments. To this end Monash Health and Alfred Health have formed a Shared Pathology Partnership. The focus of the partnership is to maintain and strengthen the quality of services, expand the scope and improve access to public pathology. Combined, Alfred Health and Monash Health will become one of the biggest providers of public pathology services in Victoria.

Shared Pathology GP Survey

As a key stakeholder, we would like to invite you to participate in this survey and provide feedback about your experience and expectations of our pathology service and key considerations for our future.

This survey should take about 10 minutes to complete.

<https://forms.office.com/r/NtJYnTCT2c>



Pathology announcements

Introducing Caroline Langston, CEO Alfred Health and Monash Health Shared Pathology Partnership

Caroline Langston has recently been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of the Shared Pathology Service. She originally trained as a nurse in Melbourne and has spent most of my career in Western Australia and more recently in NSW. She has worked extensively in primary care services and is a strong supporter of the critical role that general practice plays in health care and understands how important clear, accurate, high quality and timely pathology results are to your practice.

Key appointments

We are also pleased to announce several key appointments within Pathology:

- Professor Hans Schneider, Interim Chief Pathologist, shared pathology partnership.
- Kristy De George, Interim Chief Operating Officer, shared pathology partnership.
- Tracey Thomas, Executive Assistant.
- Rhiannon Bentley, Interim General Manager Pathology
- Graeme Carter, Principal Scientist Biochemistry

Key contacts

Daniel Masters

Client Relationship Manager
9594 5850

Rhiannon Bentley

Interim General Manager
9594 3479

Kristy De George

Interim Chief Operating Officer
Alfred/Monash Shared
Pathology Service 9594 3479

Caroline Langston

CEO Alfred Health and Monash Health Shared Pathology Partnership
c.langston@semetrohealth.org.au

Victorian Heart Hospital

The Victorian Heart Hospital will be opening on 23rd February 2023. When fully developed, will have the capacity to provide 206 beds, 2150 cardiac surgeries and 13,000 cardiac laboratory procedures, catering for 28,300 cardiac emergency presentations and 108,000 consultations annually.



<https://www.monash.edu/news/articles/breaking-first-ground-on-groundbreaking-new-heart-hospital-at-monash> sourced 14.2.23

The Victorian Heart Hospital (VHH) is Australia's first dedicated cardiac hospital, providing innovative, holistic and patient-centred care, as well as world-leading research and education.

The VHH is connected to and integrated with the Monash University's state-of-the-art education infrastructure and extensive research technology platforms, providing seamless boundaries between clinical cardiology services, research and education.

VHH Pathology

We are opening a new state of the art Pathology Laboratory at the VHH. The new Laboratory will operate 24/7 providing routine testing and blood transfusion services.

We are providing collection services onsite with a Pathology collection centre located on level 1 with opening hours 800am-500pm Monday to Friday and 800am to 200pm on Saturdays.

To support rapid clinical decision making at VHH, point of care testing is available in the Cardiac Emergency Department, ICU and Theatres.

Results Directly into your Practice Software



We are committed to improving our result delivery service.

Monash Health Pathology prefers to send results directly into your practice software. We use a third part provider, Healthlink, to deliver these messages.

If you would like to receive electronic results into your practice software please discuss with your IT department to install this secure messaging software. This software provides a secure link, between Monash Health Pathology and Imaging, and your practices software allowing for, the safe and timely delivery, of results and reports.

This software is free, safe and improves report delivery. No need for long mail delivery times, two step authentication login processes, or cumbersome paper faxes.

<https://au.healthlink.net/>

1800 125 036

Point of care

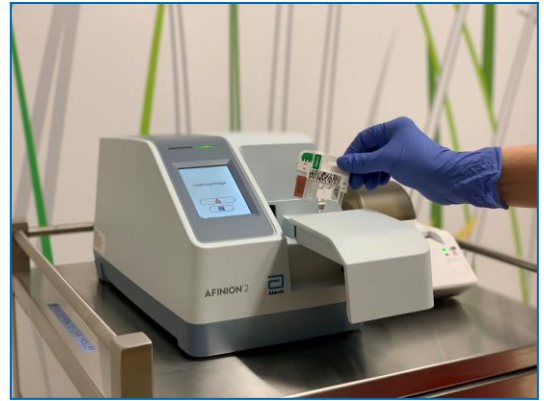
At Monash Health Pathology, we provide the Bass Coast and South Gippsland area with crucial Point-of-care testing at multiple hospital and clinic sites.

The testing we provide includes Chemical Biochemistry, such as Troponin, Glucose/Ketones, HbA1c, Blood Gases and General Chemistry.

We also provide Haematology tests that include Coagulation and Haemoglobin testing.

If you have any requests or questions regarding Point-of-Care testing, please don't hesitate to contact us.

POC Mobile: 0436 612 525



Receiving your patient's results

We are able to provide patient results to you in the format you require; downloaded into your practice software, faxed or hard copy.

To set up your preferred result format, please contact us on:

9594 4538

or email pathology@monashhealth.org

The referring Doctor will be notified of any critical results.



Expertise and advice

Our Pathologists and Scientific employees are available any time to assist with pathology reports or referrals. Please contact us at 9594 4538 or email pathology@monashhealth.org

PATHOLOGISTS CONCERNED AS ONLY 27% OF THOSE AGED 70-74 TOOK PART IN A CERVICAL SCREENING LAST YEAR

Pathologists continue to encourage Australians, with focus on older women, to catch up on cervical screening tests, as national data shows screening participation is lowest in the 70-74 age group.

Cervical screening participation among those with a cervix

The National Cervical Screening Program monitoring report 2021 from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) shows that over the 3-year period 2018-2020 only 56% of eligible people took part in cervical screening tests. The highest participation rate was for those aged 45-49 at 61%, but for those aged 65-69 participation was 55%, and only 27% of those aged 70-74 took part in cervical screening.

While it is unclear how much of an impact the pandemic has had on cervical screening uptake, routine healthcare participation was significantly affected, with pathology testing rates dropping by around 40 per cent² in the first months of COVID-19 restrictions.

Self-collect as a cervical screening option

In July 2022, self-collection of samples for cervical screening tests became available to all people with a cervix aged 25-74. This means patients will no longer need their doctor or nurse to insert a speculum to collect the cervical sample. This week Adj. Prof Farnsworth encouraged GPs to offer self-collect to their patients and open the conversation with older women particularly.

On behalf of Pathology Awareness Australia, Adjunct Professor Annabelle Farnsworth said: “The main thing to remember is that we still see cervical cancers occurring in those aged 45 and up who have no history of cancer screening. This group is also unvaccinated due to their age, and it breaks your heart when you know there is a screening program to prevent these cancers, but they haven’t accessed it for whatever reason.”

HPV & vaccination rates

Before the pandemic, Australia was leading in cervical cancer elimination due to prevention measures. A 2018 study in *The Lancet* noted that with a combination of screening and vaccination, Australia could be one of the first countries in the world to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem and could do so by 2035.³

However, most women in their 50s, 60s and 70s would not have been vaccinated against HPV, as the National HPV Vaccination Program in schools only began in 2007.

For the complete article please visit, <https://knowpathology.com.au/>

PATHOLOGISTS CONCERNED AS ONLY 27% OF THOSE AGED 70-74 TOOK PART IN A CERVICAL SCREENING LAST YEAR, Aug 19th, 2022, Know Pathology know Healthcare. Sourced 14.02.2023 <https://knowpathology.com.au/pathologists-concerned-as-only-27-of-those-aged-70-74-took-part-in-a-cervicalscreening-last-year/>

Collection centre locations

Collection Centre	Address	Telephone	Hours
COWES	Phillip Island Health Hub 50-54 Church Street, Cowes	Ph: (03) 5951 2120	Monday to Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm Saturday 12.00am – 2.00pm
FOSTER	Foster Community Health Centre 87 Station Street, Foster	Ph: (03) 8572 2120	Monday to Friday 8.00am – 2.30pm
KORUMBURRA	Korumburra Hospital 65 Bridge Street, Korumburra	Ph: (03) 5654 2799	Monday to Friday 8:00am – 3.00pm
LEONGATHA	Leongatha Hospital 66 Koonwarra Road, Leongatha	Ph: (03) 5667 5573	Monday to Friday 8.00am – 4.00pm Saturday 9.00am – 11.00am
WONTHAGGI	Wonthaggi Hospital 235 Graham Street, Wonthaggi	Ph: (03) 5671 3292 Fax: (03) 5671 4293	Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.00pm Saturday 8.30am – 10.30am Sunday 8.00am – 12.00 noon
YARRAM	Yarram & District Health Service 85-91 Commercial Road, Yarram	Ph: (03) 5182 0360 Fax: (03) 5182 0393	Monday to Friday 8:00am - 2:30pm