

Business Rules for Private Specialist Referred Laboratory Testing

1. Referrals for laboratory testing from private specialists are excluded except in the following cases:
 - People who are eligible for ACC are eligible for laboratory testing under this agreement, as laboratory tests are included in Public Health Acute Service Funding.
 - Women requiring antenatal tests specifically for the purpose of ensuring the clinical safety of the foetus and the mother during pregnancy are included under this agreement.
 - People who are referred for tests by private specialists as part of their treatment at publicly funded non-governmental services. This includes people accessing:
 - Family planning services
 - Fertility services (but only for those whose treatment is being publicly funded)
 - The regional sexual health service funded by C&CDHB & Hutt Valley DHB
 - Welltrust
 - Hospice
 - Other NGO services as advised from time to time by the DHBs.
2. People requiring tests that are for diagnosis and treatment purposes and have a significant element of public good associated with them as defined by the Oversight Advisory Group and approved by the DHBs. Initially this will include:
 - Testing for Tuberculosis
 - Testing related to Gamete donation
 - Testing for certain infectious diseases such as Hepatitis, HIV, Chlamydia and Syphilis
 - Testing associated with needlestick injuries
 - Other tests if approved by the DHBs.
3. The following occupational groups are considered to be specialists:
 - General practitioners working in private hospitals or specialist clinics are considered to be specialists under this agreement. This includes GPs doing, for example, cardiology, appearance medicine, menopause clinics.
 - Oral health surgeons
4. Where a GP is carrying out minor surgery (e.g. skin lesion excision or vasectomy) on primary care premises this is considered to be primary referred rather than specialist testing.
5. Primary Care practitioners include midwives and dentists.
6. People who do not live in the Hutt Valley or Capital and Coast DHB regions are subject to the same rules as those living within the region. This means, for example, that residents of Wairarapa and MidCentral DHB regions will pay for tests referred by private specialists.

7. Where a patient has paid \$500 or more over a 6 month period for a chronic, non-surgical condition and is likely to require ongoing tests a hardship exemption may be available. Individual may apply to be assessed on a case by case basis through the DHBs contract manager and community laboratories oversight advisory group.