

Being a Phlebotomist – what is it all about?

Phlebotomists hold some of the most important roles within Aotea Pathology. They work on the frontline of our organisation and are most often the first point of contact with the public. Despite this high profile role, many people are unfamiliar with what a phlebotomist job entails. The following is a brief description for anyone interested in taking up this exciting and varied career.

Being a phlebotomist within Aotea Pathology mainly involves performing venepuncture (drawing blood samples from peoples veins), as well as performing a range of procedures from skin scrapings, allergy tests, taking swabs and other tasks.

Phlebotomists are based at one of the many collection rooms which are located throughout the Wellington region. We also provide a domiciliary service in which rostered phlebotomists visit patients at home, and also visit medical centres, hospitals and retirement homes.

Within this role you are involved with a wide cross-section of people, and the phlebotomy team is a positive and supportive group to work alongside.

Training is very thorough and after your initial training you will receive ongoing support from senior staff. After working as a phlebotomist for 2 years, and completing a standard competency based logbook you are eligible to sit the Qualified Phlebotomist Technician (QPT) exam. This is run through the New Zealand Institute of Medical Laboratory Science (NZIMLS).

Interested? Contact Julie Page – Manager, Collection Services on 381 5900 ext. 748 or by email jpage@apath.co.nz.