

Memorandum

TO: Consultants, Clinicians, and Referral Laboratories

FROM: Dr Weldon Chiu, Chemical Pathologist, Specialist Chemical Pathology Department

DATE: 15 October 2019

SUBJECT: Faecal Pancreatic Elastase test - change of measurement platform notification

Dear Customer(s),

The faecal pancreatic elastase test will no longer be a sendaway test from 18th November 2019. It will be performed by the Department of Specialist Chemical Pathology at LabPlus.

This change allows the introduction of automation in the analysis process and has a shorter turnaround time. It will also do away with the screening slide test and will be cost saving. Although the new immunoassay method is different from the in-use method by the referral laboratory, the performance of the new method with respect to classifying patients into "normal (>200 ug/g wet stool) ", "borderline (between 100-200 ug/g wet stool) ", or "suggestive of moderate to severe exocrine pancreatic insufficiency (<100 ug/g wet stool)" remains essentially the same.

Links to new guidelines will be available on the LabPlus Testguide:

<http://testguide.adhb.govt.nz/EGuide/>

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact one of our Chemical Pathologists on chemicalpathologist@adhb.govt.nz

You can also contact one of chemical Pathologists via LabLINK at (09) 307 8995 and ask for on-duty chemical pathologist.