

1. Whoops!

Unfortunately email addresses given in the last Outreach for results enquiries to the Radiology Department and Laboratory were incorrect!

The correct addresses are:

Radiology_Enquiry@waikatodhb.govt.nz

Laboratory_Enquiry@waikatodhb.govt.nz

Please remember that to ensure patients privacy only the patient's NHI number and date of investigation should be provided on the enquiry. The requested results will be sent from Waikato Hospital by HL7 in the same way that GPs receive other results.

2. Scabies

The dermatologists have noted that scabies is rife at present. Be suspicious when more than one family member is affected and when there is a severe complaint of itch with little rash to observe. The best places to detect burrows are the palms, between fingers and on the volar aspects of the wrists. Magnification may expose the burrow and the small triangle-shaped light brown mite at its end, clinching the diagnosis. Itchy penile papules are also diagnostic. If in doubt, treat the affected individual and all household contacts with an effective scabicide to the entire body except scalp and face. Repeat after 7 to 10 days.

See

<http://www.dermnetnz.org/arthropods/scabies.html> for more information.

3. Access to post mortem results

A number of GPs have commented that they would like to receive post-mortem results on their patients. The vast majority of post-mortems are coroner cases and the family of the deceased is entitled to a copy of the report. Each family is informed of this by the coroner, although not all families take up the offer. The coroner's office is able to provide a copy to the GP on request by contacting the office on 07 834 1756 and asking to speak to one of the coordinators. For the very small number of non-coroner post-mortems (less than 10/yr or only 1-2% of all post mortems performed at Waikato Hospital), the GP needs to obtain the signed authority and permission of the deceased's "personal representative" (i.e. the executor of the will or the administrator of the estate where the person dies intestate) for the morgue to release a copy of the post-mortem report to the GP.

4. Specialist palliative care advice service

A more streamlined palliative care advice service for primary providers is to be piloted for three months beginning 3 March 2008. The pilot is designed to provide an equitable service across the whole district

and to obtain an accurate measure of demand for future service planning.

The enhanced service is for health professionals only (not patients, family, or carers). It is for palliative care patients known to either the Palliative Care Unit and/or Hospice Waikato. New referrals should be made in the usual manner.

Medical pathway

For medical advice 24 hrs day, 7 days a week, please phone Waikato Hospital on 07 839 8899 and ask for the palliative care consultant on call. This service has recently been implemented with the recruitment of a third palliative care specialist.

Nursing Pathway

Normal working hours: contact the service (either Palliative Care Unit via Waikato Hospital switchboard 07 839 8899 or Hospice Waikato 07 839 3889) that is currently involved with the patient.

Out of normal hours i.e. 1700 to 0830 Monday to Friday and from 1700 Friday through to 0830 Monday for specialist nursing advice please phone Hospice Waikato on 07 839 3889 and the call will be directed to the nurse on call.

Any feedback on the service during the pilot should be directed to Jan Hewitt, project sponsor on 07 839 8899 ext 6808 or mobile 021 279 1870 or e-mail: hewittj@waikatodhb.govt.nz

Concerns about service delivery during the pilot should be directed to Raewyn Jarvis-Hall, clinical nurse manager, Hospice Waikato on 07 839 3889 ext 811 or mobile 027 246 9067 or e-mail raewyn@hospicewaikato.org.nz

5. Welcome....

Hamish McCay, paediatrics, trained in NZ but most recently spent a year in Geelong doing community paediatrics training. He is a general/community paediatrician with an interest in population health and will be based at Waikato Hospital with outreach clinics in Taumaranui for a couple of days every month.

Deepika Singh, paediatrics, trained in South African but has been in Hamilton for the past three years. For the past 17 months, she worked as a locum paediatrician at Waikato Hospital and has now accepted a permanent position. She has a special interest in paediatric oncology.

6. Farewell and thank you to...

Richard Talbot, cardiologist, who is retiring after many years in the Waikato. He is particularly recognised for his interest in rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, which led him to do a masters in public health.

Clinic	Category	Waiting Time
Audiology	Children 9-32 mths	2 months
	Under 17 years	2-3 months
	Children's hearing aids	4 weeks
	Adult diagnostic tests	3 months
	Adult hearing aids	2 months
	Central auditory processing test	6 months
Breast Care	Urgent	3 weeks
	Semi-urgent *BCC Imaging Urgent only	3 month 2 weeks
Cardiac Surgery	Urgent	1-3 weeks
	Semi-urgent	3-6 weeks
Cardiology	Urgent	1-2 months
	Semi-urgent Routine	2-6 months 6 months
Colposcopy	Invasive	Within 7 days
	High grade	4 weeks
	Low grade	26 weeks
	Non cervical	26 weeks
Dental	Urgent	24 hours
	Semi-urgent	3 weeks
	Routine	3 months
Dermatology (1) Fax urgent referrals to 07 839 8670	Urgent	Within 5 days
	Semi-urgent	3 months
	Routine	6 months
Paediatric Dermatology		5 months
Dermatology Lesion Clinic	Urgent	7 days
	Semi-urgent	4 weeks
	Routine	6 months
Diabetes Consultant (2)	Urgent	Within 2 weeks
	Semi-urgent	Within 1 month
	Routine	Within 6 months
Diabetes Nurse Educator	Urgent	Within 7 days
	Semi-urgent	Within 6 weeks
Endocrinology	Urgent	6 weeks
	Semi-urgent	5 months
	Routine	Within 6 months
Endoscopy/Colonoscopy Medical	Urgent	4-6 weeks
	Semi-Urgent	4-6 weeks
Surgical	Urgent	4-6 weeks
	Semi-urgent	12-18 months
ENT	Urgent	1-6 weeks
	Semi-urgent (children)	6 months
	Semi-urgent (adults)	6 months
Gastro-enterology	Urgent	2-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-6 weeks
General Medicine	Urgent	1-2 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-4 weeks
	Routine	2-3 months
General Surgery	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi urgent	2-6 months
Gynaecology	Urgent	2 weeks
	Semi-urgent	3 months
	Routine	6 months
Haematology	Urgent	2-8 weeks
	Semi-urgent	6-4 weeks
	Routine	4-6 months
	DVT	4 months
Maxillo-facial	Urgent	Within 24 hours
	Semi-urgent Routine	Within 3 weeks 3 months
Neurology	Urgent	1-3 months
	Semi-urgent	3-10 months
	EMG urgent	1-4 months
	Routine	4-6 months
	EEG urgent routine	2-8 weeks 2-6 months
Neurosurgery	Urgent	Within 1 month
	Semi-urgent Routine	Within 6 months
Oncology and Medical	Priority 1	1-2 days
	Priority 2	5-10 working days
	Priority 3	40-50 working days
	Priority 1	1-2 days
Radiation	Priority 2	5-10 working days
	Priority 3	25-30 working days

Clinic	Category	Waiting Time
Ophthalmology	Urgent	within 1 month
	Urgent laser	1-3 weeks
	Semi-urgent – Children	within 6 months
	Semi-urgent – Adults	6 months
	Semi-urgent (diabetic) Minor Operation Clinic	1 month within 6 months
Orthopaedic	General – Urgent	1-8 weeks
	Semi-urgent	Up to 3 months
	Routine	Up to 6 months
	Paediatrics – Urgent	1-6 weeks
	Semi-urgent Routine	Up to 4 months Up to 6 months
	Paediatric Gait Clinic CDH/DDH Assess	NB: referrals may be initially seen by a Generalist Orthopaedic Surgeon Within 3 months 1-6 weeks
Paediatric Medicine	Urgent	1-2 months
	Semi-urgent Routine	3 months 3-6 months
Paediatric Surgical	Urgent	2-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	4-6 weeks
	Routine	8-12 weeks
Pain clinic	Urgent	Up to 1 month
	Semi-urgent	Up to 3 months
	Routine	6 months
Physiotherapy	General musculoskeletal	5 days (urgent) 6-8 weeks (routine)
	Respiratory	5 days (urgent) 4 weeks (semiurgent)
	Rheumatology	4 weeks
	Women's Health	5 days (urgent) 3-4 weeks (routine)
	Continance	6 months
Plastics (1) Fax immediate / acute referrals to 07 839 8670	Urgent	Within 1 week
	Semi-urgent	Within 6 weeks
	Routine	Within 3 months
Plastics Lesion clinic	Urgent	2 weeks
	Semi-urgent Routine	2 months 4 months
Rehabilitation	Day Clinic (Physio Only)	1-3 weeks
	Day Clinic (OT)	1-3 weeks
	Rehab Clinic (Physio)	1-3 weeks
	Rehab Clinic (OT)	1-3 weeks
	Rehab Clinic (Neuropsychologist)	
	Urgent Semi-urgent Routine	1-3 weeks 1-6 months 2 years
Renal	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-4 months
	Routine	4-6 months
Respiratory	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	1-2 months
	Routine	4-6 months
Rheumatology (3)	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	1-2 months
	Routine	2-4 months
Thyroid	Urgent	5 weeks
	Semi-urgent	5 months
	Routine	4-6 months
Ultrasound	Very Urgent	1 week
	Urgent	2 weeks
	Priority	4 weeks
	Routine	3 months
	Non-urgent	6 months
Urology		Within 2 months
Vascular	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-4 months
	Routine	4-6 months
Vascular Surgery	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-4 months
	Routine	4-6 months
Adult Mental Health Waiting Times		
Triage (face to face or phone triage)	Crisis referrals Non-crisis/routine	Within 24 hours Within 2 weeks

1 Immediate & urgent dermatology/plastics cases must be discussed with the specialist or registrar to allow appropriate prioritisation.

2 All urgent diabetes referrals can be seen on the same day.

3 All urgent rheumatology cases should be discussed with the rheumatologist.

Linda Rademaker, GP Liaison - Telephone 07 839 8899 ext 23085, Fax 07 839 8810, Mobile 021 549 790

Email rademakl@waikatodhb.govt.nz

April 2008