

**WELLINGTON SCL**



# **Charging for Laboratory Tests**

**1 July 2018**

**Not all patients are eligible for HealthPAC  
funded laboratory tests**

**This protocol outlines when patients must be  
charged, the amount to be charged and the  
payment options available for patients not  
eligible for health funding**

**Note: Having an NHI does *not* guarantee eligibility**

## When should a patient be charged?

Citizens of New Zealand, Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau have automatic eligibility for “free” testing on most diagnostic test requests ordered by an appropriately registered NZ-based doctor, midwife or nurse practitioner. However, a number of important exceptions exist.

### Payment is always required when any person:

- has testing relating to a **visa** or **immigration permit**
- has an **insurance** health check (e.g. hepatitis status; HIV status; lipids)
- is having **non-diagnostic** testing done (e.g. checking immune status related to vaccination, travel or student enrolment requirements; sporting club clearances; blood grouping unrelated to transfusion; anti-aging and weight loss programs)
- Has **employment-related** checks (e.g. lead or mercury levels; pilot medicals; MRSA checks; infectious disease screening). This includes *pre*-employment tests
- have been referred by a **dentist** or an alternative health provider
- are **self-requesting** tests

### Non-New Zealand citizens are also charged for all tests unless:

- they are a resident of The **United Kingdom** or **Australia** having **urgent** care (reciprocal arrangements exist). Note: This rule does *not* apply to sexual health screens on asymptomatic patients
- they have a current **work permit valid for at least two years**; or renewed work permits totalling at least two years
- they have **refugee status** (or are in the process of applying for refugee status)
- they are having **maternity care** (includes pre- and post-natal) *and* their partner is a NZ resident or meets work permit requirements
- the testing relates to an **accident** (in which case it is covered by ACC)
- they are a student funded under **NZAID**, an **ODA scholar** or a **Commonwealth Scholarship** holder
- they are the **spouse or dependent child** (aged 19 or under) of an **ODA scholar**
- Note: Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau residents are considered NZ Citizens

This information is a brief summary of the rules; for more details go to:

<http://www.moh.govt.nz/eligibility>

## How much should patients be charged?

The price lists in this booklet provide the costs of our most common tests, including GST (tax). More copies of this booklet may be obtained by contacting our accounts department.

Prices for tests carried out by Canterbury Health Laboratories may be found at:

<https://www.chl.co.nz/>

## What options are there for payment?

Payment is required at the time of specimen collection and may be forwarded to Southern Community Laboratories with the patient's specimens.

Alternatively a commercial account can be set up for a medical centre, to be invoiced monthly for payments collected on our behalf. To set up an account, contact our accounts department using the contact details at the bottom of this page.

EFTPOS facilities are now available at most of our collection centres. For addresses of collection centres see our website: <https://www.wellingtonscl.co.nz/blood-test-rooms>

The SCL bank account for direct payments is 01-0906-0090006-00 (ANZ Bank).

Payment is always required at the time of specimen collection for self-requested tests.

## How are results reported?

Tests requested by registered referrers are reported by HL7, hard copy, fax or other method as agreed upon with the referrer.

Self-requested tests are reported by email or posted as arranged with the patient.

**If requests for non-funded tests are received *without proper payment*, the referrer or patient will be notified as appropriate. Unless payment is received within 48 hours the samples will be discarded without processing.**

Prices for all other tests are available from  
the accounts receivable department

Telephone: (03) 474 8341

Email: [accounts\\_receivable@sclabs.co.nz](mailto:accounts_receivable@sclabs.co.nz)

**BIOCHEMISTRY****WSCL price (incl. GST)***All tests are on blood unless otherwise stated***July 2018**

Albumin	7.50
Alcohol (diagnostic purposes only)	29.00
Alkaline phosphatase	7.50
Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP)	29.00
ALT	7.50
AST	7.50
Bence Jones protein (urine electrophoresis)	101.00
Beta-HCG (pregnancy test or tumour marker)	27.50
Bilirubin (Total)	7.50
Bilirubin (Total AND Direct)	19.00
BNP	57.50
Calcium (includes albumin)	21.00
Cortisol	24.50
Cortisol stimulation (Synacthen® test)	76.50
Creatinine	7.50
Creatinine (urine)	10.50
CRP	16.00
DHEA-S	32.50
Digoxin	17.50
Drug screen collection fee (evidential urine test; where offered)	106.50
Electrolytes (sodium and potassium)	14.00
Electrophoresis (serum protein)	56.50
Ferritin	16.00
Free T3	14.00
Free T4	14.00
FSH	23.00
GGT	7.50
Glucose	10.00
Glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c)	30.50
GTT (50g gestational diabetes screen)	25.00
GTT (75g standard screen)	46.00
Immunoglobulins (Total IgA, IgG, and IgM)	46.50
Insulin	40.50
Iron studies (iron, ferritin, transferrin)	37.50
Lipase	15.00
Lipid group (cholesterol, triglycerides, HDL, LDL)	36.50
Lithium	20.00
Liver Function Tests	45.00
Luteinising Hormone (LH)	14.00

**BIOCHEMISTRY (cont.)****WSCL price (incl. GST)**

<i>All tests are on blood unless otherwise stated</i>	<i>July 2018</i>
Magnesium	9.50
Microalbumin (urine albumin/creatinine ratio)	21.50
Oestradiol	24.50
Phenytoin (Dilantin®)	22.00
Phosphate	11.00
Progesterone	26.50
Prolactin	31.00
Protein	7.50
Protein (24-hour urine)	10.50
PSA (total)	16.50
Testosterone (male over 18)	28.00
Testosterone (female or male under 18)	83.00
Theophylline	19.00
Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH)	14.00
Troponin	30.00
Urea	8.00
Uric Acid	11.00
Valproate (Epilim®)	22.00
Vitamin B12 and folate	22.00
Vitamin D	42.00
Bleeding fee (lab-bleed patients only)	13.00
Handling fee (samples sent to another lab, e.g. CHL, LabPLUS)	23.00

**HAEMATOLOGY****WSCL price (incl. GST)**

<i>All tests are on blood unless otherwise stated</i>	<i>July 2018</i>
APTT	17.00
Bone marrow aspirate (trephine & analysis)	559.00
Coagulation screen (PT/INR, APTT, fibrinogen)	59.50
Complete blood count	26.50
D-dimer	35.00
ESR	19.00
Fibrinogen	18.00
INR (prothrombin ratio)	24.50
Malaria screen	58.00
Reticulocyte count	24.00
Thalassemia screen	244.50
Thrombophilia screen	504.50

**IMMUNOLOGY****WSCL price (incl. GST)***All tests are on blood unless otherwise stated***July 2018**

<b>IMMIGRATION STANDARD PANEL</b> (includes confirmations) (CBC, creat, HbA1c, hep B, hep C, HIV, syphilis)	156.50
<b>Immigration test administration fee</b>	23.00
Allergy tests (skin prick), per panel (food or inhalants)	90.00
Allergy tests (EAST, RAST), per allergen	49.00
Antenatal, first screen, including HIV (CBC, blood grp & abs, rubella, HbA1c, hep B, HIV, syphilis)	188.50
Antenatal, subsequent screen (CBC, blood grp & abs)	43.50
ANA (antinuclear antibodies) including titre	27.00
Blood group (ABO & Rhesus)	21.00
Brucella antibodies	32.50
Cardiolipin antibodies	32.00
CCP antibodies	32.50
CMV (cytomegalovirus) antibodies	64.50
Coeliac screen	41.00
Coombs test (direct antiglobulin test)	13.00
EMA	32.50
ENA	43.00
EBV (Epstein-Barr virus) serology	65.00
Helicobacter pylori antibodies	47.00
Helicobacter pylori antigen (faeces)	92.00
Hepatitis A IgG <u>or</u> IgM (each)	22.50
Hepatitis B core antibody (anti-HBc)	22.50
Hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBs)	22.50
Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg)	22.50
Hepatitis B (e) antigen (HBeAg)	22.50
Hepatitis C antibody	24.50
HIV antibody	22.50
IgE (total)	27.50
Measles IgG antibody (immune status)	33.50
Mumps IgG antibody (immune status)	33.50
QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus	81.50
Rheumatoid factors	27.00
Rubella IgG antibody (immune status)	26.00
Rubella IgM (infection)	34.50
Streptococcal antibodies (ASO)	57.50
Syphilis	22.50
Thyroid antibodies (anti-TG and anti-TPO)	24.00
Toxoplasma serology	61.00
Varicella zoster IgG	33.50

## MICROBIOLOGY

WSCL price (incl. GST)

<i>Specimen types as stated; price usually per specimen</i>	<i>July 2018</i>
Aspirate (fluid culture and microscopy)	72.50
Blood culture (per bottle)	48.00
Chlamydia and gonorrhoea PCR (Aptima swab/urine)	57.00
Clostridium difficile (faeces)	55.00
Environmental swab	32.50
ESBL screen (faeces or swab)	33.50
Faecal calprotectin	127.00
Faecal culture and parasites (1 faecal sample) – <b>no travel history</b>	107.50
Faecal culture and parasites (1 faecal sample) – <b>travel history outside NZ/Australia</b>	151.50
Faecal giardia and cryptosporidium – now included in faecal culture, not performed separately	N/A
Faecal ova & parasite exam, non-PCR (up to 3 faecal samples) – <b>travel history outside NZ/Australia</b>	44.00
Faecal clearance of previous positive or positive contact	55.00
MRSA (per swab)	22.50
Mycology/fungal culture (skin, hair or nails)	73.00
Rotavirus (faeces)	41.00
Seminal fluid, fertility	52.00
Seminal fluid, post-vasectomy	30.50
Sputum culture (not TB)	51.50
Swab for culture (all sites; each)	33.50
Trichomonas vaginalis PCR (Aptima swab/urine)	26.00
Urine culture	29.00

## CYTOLOGY/HISTOLOGY

WSCL price (incl. GST)

<i>Specimen types as stated; price usually per request</i>	<i>July 2018</i>
Cervical cytology (SurePath smear)	46.00
Fine Needle Aspirate (FNA)	234.00
Histology	208.00
Histology – block retrieval	35.00
Histology – IHC stains (each)	55.00
Non-gynaecological cytology (all but sputum)	93.00
Non-gynaecological cytology (sputum)	72.50

**MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY****WSCL price (incl. GST)***All tests are on blood unless otherwise stated**July 2018*

CMV (viral load)	277.00
Haemochromatosis gene mutation (HFE)	83.00
Hepatitis B PCR (viral load)	306.00
Hepatitis C PCR (viral load)	208.00
HIV PCR (viral load)	535.00
HLA-B27	83.00
HSV/VZV PCR (swab)	54.00

**SEND-AWAY TESTS****WSCL price (incl. GST)***All tests are on blood unless otherwise stated**July 2018*

<b>Send-away fee (per request)</b>	<b>23.00</b>
Anti-Müllerian Hormone (AMH)	64.50
Copper	33.00
Maternal Serum Screen (MSS 1)	109.25
Rabies	42.00
Zinc	33.00

**Please note all send-away tests include an additional fee of \$23.00 which covers shipping and handling**