

Expiry of laboratory request forms

As mentioned in our December electronic newsletter, after consultation with the Oversight Advisory Group all laboratory request forms will now have a limited life of 6 months. **This change took effect from Monday 16 December 2013.**

At times request forms may need an expiry interval longer than 6 months. For these situations you can use the forward dating mechanism in elab (see image below), or handwrite expiry date instructions on the paper request form. If you have any queries please contact Fiona James (04) 381 5979 or via email fjames@apath.co.nz.

The screenshot shows the AOTEA Pathology laboratory request form interface. The patient information is 'apath001 (#133), 13AEWA' and 'MOUSE, MICKEY ZZZ9994'. The form is titled 'LABORATORY REQUEST INFORMATION:'. A red arrow points to the 'Copy To (for results):' field, which is currently empty. A calendar pop-up is visible over the 'Ordering Date & Time' field, showing the date 06/12/2013. The form includes various fields for patient information, clinical information, and test details.

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	Week
					1		48
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	49
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	50
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	51
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	52
30	31						1

Change to ESR test request protocol

ESR test requests are approved for back pain investigations. Please ensure 'back pain' is clearly stated on the request form where applicable.

When referring patients to Wellington Hospital for back pain investigation please include any ESR results as this is required at assessment.

For further information please visit our website <http://www.apath.co.nz/esr-test-request-protocol>