

11 December 2020 (1600 hrs)

Important information for all *General Practice, Community Pharmacy and Urgent Care teams*
- Please share this with everyone in your team -

Update on Pre-travel testing for China

The requirement

From 10/12/20 people travelling to China can have either two PCR tests on consecutive days or a single PCR test and an IgM blood test, which can be performed in a single appointment.

From 18/12/20 it will be compulsory for people to have the single PCR test and IgM blood test. The two PCR tests will no longer be accepted.

These tests need to be performed within two days of travel. Testing kits will be provided by the CHL lab. As usual, if you are planning to offer this service, you will be responsible for notifying test results in the required format. You will need to charge the patient for the cost of both tests and any additional costs incurred by your practice. The lab will invoice you for the cost of the tests (see below).

Children under 5 years old, travelling with an adult, do not need to be tested.

We are waiting for a formal process to be put in place by the Ministry of Health around managing a positive IgM result. We hope this will be available before 18/12/20.

Lab Options

CHL are expected to have the IgM test available from Tuesday 15 December at a cost of \$70+gst. Attached is a document with the process to follow. (Labs will continue to charge \$80+gst for the PCR swab test).

CSCL will also be processing PCR tests and IgM blood tests for pre-travel to China only. Their process and fees are available here (<https://www.canterburyscl.co.nz/blog/2020/12/04/pre-departure-testing-for-travel-to-china/>) and in the attached document.

CSCL will not be processing results on Sundays or Public holidays without prior agreement. Please keep this in mind when booking people for tests. Their on-call microbiologist can be contacted on 027 550 7034. Please follow their process carefully.

Timeframes

These pre-travel tests for China need to be performed within two days of travel. If you are unable to complete all requirements within the required timeframes please refer your patient. The following designated practices are still able to see people for this service (by appointment only):

- Moorhouse Medical Centre
- Riccarton Clinic
- We Care Health Wigram.

This process will be updated on HealthPathways.

Red Stream Webinar and Triage Template

We have had good numbers signing up for the Red Streaming Webinar on 16 December 2020 (7.00 – 8.00pm). This webinar is designed to give some outline principles and practical advice around sustainable red streaming.

Booking is still available at <https://canterbury.communityhealthpathways.org/816185.htm> and on [Pegasus World](#)

Feel free to submit any questions you might have before the webinar. We can also work through questions on the day. Also feel free to enjoy a glass of wine and a mince pie while you join this fun and stimulating session!(self catering requirement!)

In addition to this session, we have developed a template for triage questions. This is designed to offer a standardized process that may assist reception and nursing staff with effective triage. These questions have been trialed in practice and appear to work well. Details are in the attached PDF and will also be available on HealthPathways.

Thank you for your understanding at this time.

Kind regards,

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