

COVID-19 Laboratory testing update

Key points:

- COVID-19 testing staff are working 7 days and running samples around the clock
- Samples are batched and the testing process takes around **8 hours** from start to finish
- ED, inpatient and healthcare worker COVID-19 requests are being prioritised
- Priority samples will be included in the next available batch
- Due to sample numbers, expected turnaround for priority samples can be 24 to 48 hours
- All COVID-19 results are viewable on CWS when testing is complete
- All COVID-19 results from ED, Community Based Assessment Centres (CBACs) and GPs are going to the GP.
- Positive results are being notified daily to appropriate hospital and Public Health staff
- Positive patients will be followed up by Public Health, normally within 24 hours
- Swabs are not available from the Laboratory or through Oracle.

To order swabs for COVID-19 testing:

Monday-Friday - email Kerryn.shiels@waikatodhb.health.nz

Saturday-Sunday, 0700hrs-1700hrs - call Distribution staff on **021 759 980** or go to the DC/Theatre Store on Level B1 of the MCC Building

15/04/2020