



PATIENT GUIDE

After your pathology test

Thanks for choosing PathWest. We hope the following information helps with any questions you may have after your test, including care tips and advice on getting a copy of your results.

After your blood test

To minimise the risk of bruising and/or continued bleeding, we encourage you to leave the dressing in place for at least one hour and rest your arm where possible.

Additionally, for two to six hours after, it is suggested you avoid:

- » Lifting or carrying any heavy items
- » Wearing tight or restrictive clothing above or around the collection site
- » Exercise or strenuous activity which may stimulate blood flow to the area.

You may experience some of the following after your blood test:

- » **Bleeding**
Apply firm pressure for five minutes with a clean dressing.

If bleeding is excessive or if you are on anticoagulant therapy, apply firm pressure and elevate your arm immediately.

- » **Bruising**

Small bruises are common but if the bruise is bigger than a 10 cent piece and/or uncomfortable, apply a cold/ice pack and elevate the site where your blood was taken.

- » **Swelling, pain and redness after 24 hours**

Seek your doctor's advice or telephone **13 PATH (7284)** and ask for after care advice.

After a nail clipping/skin scraping

Due to the nature of the procedure, you may notice your nail/s have jagged edges. Trimming or filing your nail/s will resolve this.

Your pathology results

It is important that your pathology results are discussed with your doctor/GP and as such they are sent automatically to your doctor. Here are some other ways to access an additional copy.

My Health Record

The best way to get a copy of your pathology results is via your 'My Health Record'. Your results will be loaded automatically to your record, unless you specify on the request form that you do not want this to happen, or if you have previously opted out. This process can take up to seven days from report issue. Visit www.myhealthrecord.gov.au for more information.

Request a copy of your results

If you would still like an additional copy, you can call the PathWest Customer Contact Centre on **13 PATH (7284)** and specify one of these delivery methods:

- » Fax to your GP/doctor which you can then collect on your next visit
- » Collect in person from a PathWest collection centre convenient to you. Photo identification must be presented on collection. (Note you are not able to collect results on behalf of someone else. Children's results cannot be collected by parent/guardian)
- » Post to your residential address as nominated on the request form.

To protect your privacy, we are not able to provide results over the telephone or via email.

Your feedback

Your feedback helps us continually improve our service to you. Please visit the feedback page at www.pathwest.health.wa.gov.au or complete a feedback form, available from your local PathWest collection centre.



For more pathology related information, please visit www.pathwest.health.wa.gov.au or call **13 PATH (7284)**

Available in alternative formats upon request.