

25 February 2010

Dear Practitioner

This week Labtests has completed a major milestone, receiving our one millionth genuine test request. In this update we also welcome Dr Andre Simmance, a new addition to our pathology team.

We also include information on Labtests cortisol assay, which has been modified to a new standard in keeping with modern laboratory practice.

### **LABTESTS PATHOLOGY UPDATES – SESSION REMINDERS AND TOPICS**

Next week we commence our 2010 Labtests Pathology Updates with presentations from Dr Vladimir Osipov, Anatomical Pathologist on “Problematic cases in Dermatopatology” and Dr Jeffrey Barron, Chemical Pathologist on “Why eGFR, proteinuria and other stories,” the interpretation of GFR and estimated GFR.

Please make note of the below dates and times for this year’s Labtests Pathology Update sessions in Mt Wellington and on the North Shore. The sessions will follow the same format as the ones we held at the end of last year. Drinks and nibbles will be served from 6.30pm with the presentation beginning at 7.00 pm.

#### **Waipuna Lodge:**

Wednesday 3 March 2010	6.30pm - 9.00pm
Wednesday 2 June 2010	6.30pm - 9.00pm
Wednesday 1 September 2010	6.30pm - 9.00pm
Wednesday 24 November 2010	6.30pm - 9.00pm

#### **Bruce Mason Convention Centre:**

Wednesday 10 March 2010	6.30pm - 9.00pm
Wednesday 9 June 2010	6.30pm - 9.00pm
Wednesday 8 September 2010	6.30pm - 9.00pm
Wednesday 1 December 2010	6.30pm - 9.00pm

### **MODIFICATIONS TO LABTESTS CORTISOL ASSAY**

Labtests cortisol assay has been realigned to a new gold standard GCMS method. Patient results with the new assay show excellent correlation with the previous kit. In view of the diurnal rhythm for cortisol, the new assay may not have any clinical implications.

Due to this change, the following message will be attached to all cortisol results:

***“From xth March 2010 the cortisol assay has been specifically aligned to a new standard.”***

## OUR TEAM

This week, Labtests welcomed Haematologist, Dr Andre Simmance who joins Labtests from his role as Consultant Haematologist at Healthscope's Gribbles Pathology in Melbourne, Australia.

Dr Simmance completed undergraduate medical training at Monash University, and undertook clinical and laboratory haematology training at Monash Medical Centre and the Austin Hospital in Melbourne.

He is a fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, and a member of the Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand, and the Australasian Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis.

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Yours sincerely



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