



2 November 2018

Extension of community laboratory testing contract provides certainty

The Northern Region's four district health boards, covering a population of 1.8 million people, have secured a long-term agreement that provides ongoing certainty about the provision of community-referred pathology services.

The agreement extension with Healthscope will see common laboratory tests requested by general practitioners and other community health providers continue to be undertaken by Labtests across the Auckland, Counties Manukau, Waitemata and Northland districts for a further six years until 2026.

"This means laboratory samples will continue to be taken at the same clinic locations which members of the public are already familiar with and by the same skilled workforce currently handling this important work," said Dr Margaret Wilsher, Auckland DHB Chief Medical Officer (CMO) and Regional CMO Lead for Laboratories.

"There has been a high standard of service-delivery under the existing contract, with key performance indicators achieved and a collaborative working arrangement embedded."

Pat Snedden, Auckland DHB Chair and Regional Lead Chair for Laboratories, said: "The DHBs are satisfied that the extension achieves continuity-of-service and a high quality of laboratory testing for patients."

Ends

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