

Life! Funded Pathology Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. Can ANY pathology company be used to obtain pathology results?**
- A. **No.** The Life! program distributes pathology request forms specific to the pathology labs which have contracted to supply the Life! Program with invoices for tests conducted as part of the funded pathology initiative. Facilitators can obtain these by contacting tsherer@diabetesvic.org.au .
- Q. Do participants need to complete both an FBG and GTT in every instance?**
- A. **No.** Participants should only be given either form of test in isolation. In instances where the nominated Life! program health professional cannot exclude diabetes from an FBG result, the facilitator is informed that a GTT is then required.
- Q. Can Life! funded pathology be supplied where a GP has excluded diabetes but not included blood tests from within 12 months?**
- A. **No.** Life! funded pathology was conceived to remove a potential barrier to enrolment. Once a referral or enrolment has been received Life! funded pathology CAN NOT be used. In instances where a GP has already excluded diabetes the participant can be entered on the facilitator database and enrolled in a program. It is the responsibility of the facilitator to obtain the relevant blood test results in order to complete the minimum data set for invoicing purposes.
- Q. Can Life! funded pathology be supplied solely to obtain Lipid results?**
- A. **No.** Life! funded pathology was conceived to remove a potential barrier to enrolment. As Lipid testing is not part of a participant's eligibility for the Life! program Lipid test slips cannot be supplied in isolation to a participant who has already been entered on the facilitator database.
- Q. Should participants always be supplied with funded pathology as part of a First Visit?**
- A. **No.** A participant should only be supplied with DA-Vic funded pathology if they are unable to obtain recent blood glucose test results from their GP.
- Q. Can I copy myself in on pathology forms to receive results directly?**
- A. **Yes.** However, the final decision as to whether results are sufficient to exclude diabetes for the purposes of the Life! program will remain at the discretion of the nominated Life! health professional.
- Q. Is it always necessary to include the participant's GP details on pathology forms?**
- A. **Yes.** In cases where the participant is diagnosed with diabetes as a result of Life! funded pathology testing, the duty of care would fall entirely to DA - Vic if that participant's GP was not also included in the results.
- As this scenario is impracticable, it is a requirement that the usual GP's contact details are always included in the 'Copy to' section of all Life! funded pathology forms supplied by facilitators to potential participants.
- Q. Does Life! funded pathology testing extend to tests outside the minimum data set?**
- A. **No.** Life! funded pathology forms are pre-formatted to cover fasting glucose, oral glucose tolerance, fasting cholesterol, Trigs, HDL and LDL testing. These are the only tests for which the Life! program will accept invoices for.

Call 13 RISK (13 7475) or visit www.diabetesrisk.org.au