



Frequently Asked Questions

for Primary Care clinicians who order laboratory tests

1. What is LEAP?

LEAP (Lakes Eclair Access Project) will allow Lakes hospital clinicians and general practitioners in the community to access a shared repository of Lakes district residents past and future laboratory results

2. Why is Lakes DHB implementing the LEAP project?

- Improve quality and safety of care through access to all available clinical information
- Save time by providing clinicians faster access to information
- Prevent patients from undergoing further tests
- Cost savings resulting from reduced duplicate testing

3. What laboratory results will be included?

The Bay of Plenty Eclair clinical data repository is being used for the LEAP project. This repository contains past and future Bay of Plenty and Lakes DHB hospital and community results, Waikato DHB community results and New Zealand Blood Service blood products and cross match results from both Bay of Plenty and Lakes DHB.

4. Who will be able to view laboratory results?

Authorised clinicians in Lakes, Bay of Plenty and Waikato DHBs will be able to view laboratory results for patients under their care. Within Lakes DHB the hospital roll out of Eclair will commence first. Following this, planning will commence to provide Lakes GPs access.

5. What should I tell patients?

Clinicians who order tests have a responsibility to communicate with their patients the way in which information is shared. The information you provide to your patients will vary depending on the individual patients, the type of test involved and the patient's current knowledge of information sharing. Discussion with patients is recommended when laboratory tests are ordered.

Points to consider:

- Most patients will be comfortable with an explanation such as 'Laboratory test results can now be accessed by other clinicians involved in your care'
- Inform patients why information is shared - to improve quality and safety of care, prevent patients from undergoing further tests.
- Provide the patient FAQ sheet to those who seek more information

6. What should I do if a patient doesn't want their laboratory information shared?

Patients can choose not to have their community information shared via this service. If this is the case, patients need to be aware that other clinicians involved in their care will not have access to all information. This could impact on their treatment and care or result in laboratory tests being retaken.

If a patient does not want a future test result shared:

The primary care clinicians ordering the laboratory test should generate a random and anonymous identifier at the time the laboratory request form is completed. The request will be registered against this anonymous identifier at the point of specimen registration. Results will be sent electronically and reside in the Eclair repository but will not be linked to a valid NHI. Only users with knowledge of the anonymous identifier will be able to locate and view results.

How to generate an anonymous laboratory request:

1. Generate standard code
 - 1st two letters of the surname
 - 1st letter of first name
 - M or F for male or female
 - Date of birth
 - Eg. John Smith, Date of birth 1/1/1950 = SMJM01011950 (this is the standard code)
2. Print out laboratory request form
3. Handwrite standard code on lab request
4. Remove all other patient details
5. Result will return to surgery as an unmatched transaction
6. Surgery to match transactions by the date of birth

If a patient requests a removal of a historical community laboratory result:

To prevent sharing of a historical community result, the individual result needs to be removed from the repository. The result will no longer be accessible to any clinician accessing Eclair. Removal requires the identification of result information such as NHI, specimen ID, test name and test date.

Following discussion with the patient, the clinician can complete the Lakes DHB form to request removal of laboratory results from the Lakes/BOP Eclair repository. A copy of this form can be downloaded from the Lakes DHB website, www.lakesdhb.govt.nz, Health Professionals \ Lab Results LEAP. It includes instructions on its submission by email to the Lakes DHB Information Systems Department to initiate this process. Further liaison may be necessary to clearly identify which result needs to be removed from the repository.

Hospital results **cannot** be removed from the repository.

7. How the information is kept secure?

Lakes DHB hospital users will access results stored in the Eclair repository through the Lakes HealthViews clinical workstation. GPs will access to Eclair is through a secure website. All access to results in the repository can be tracked, viewed and audited. All GPs will be required to sign an access agreement with the DHB prior to obtaining a log in for Eclair.