

# MEMORANDUM

**Date: 1 October 2024**

## **Discontinuation of Infectious Mononucleosis (IM) test at Canterbury Health Laboratories**

Please note that from 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2024, Haematology at Canterbury Health Laboratories will no longer perform the Infectious Mononucleosis (IM/Monospot) test. IM is a test for the presence of heterophile antibodies in response to Epstein Barr Virus (EBV) infection and has been found to have sub-optimal sensitivity and specificity.

If a clinical diagnosis of Infectious Mononucleosis cannot be made, we recommend serology for the detection of antibodies to EBV IgG, IgM and EBNA.

Please contact the Haematology lab (03 364 0376 OR ext 80373) for more information regarding discontinuation of this service.

Please contact the Serology lab (03 364 0356 OR ext 80356) regarding the alternative serology tests available. Note the serology tests are non-urgent tests and are performed on weekdays only.



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