

Sunday Openings - BC Biomedical extends operations to a 7 days a week service

We are pleased to announce the opening of the following nine Patient Service Centres (PSCs) on Sundays **as of January 8, 2012.**

- | | Sunday Hours |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abbotsford
#103 - 2151 McCallum Road
#201 - 32475 Simon Avenue | 0700 - 1200 h
0700 - 1200 h |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coquitlam
Suite R 435 North Road
#313 - 1194 Lansdowne Drive | 0700 - 1200 h
0700 - 1200 h |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delta
#201 - 8425 120th Street (Scott Rd) | 0700 - 1200 h |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Langley
#130 - 19653 Willowbrook Drive | 0700 - 1200 h |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Coquitlam
#7 - 2185 Wilson Avenue | 0700 - 1200 h |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrey
#124 - 13745 72nd Avenue
#106 - 8927 152nd Street | 0700 - 1200 h
0700 - 1200 h |

We anticipate further openings in other geographic areas in due course once we overcome some logistic issues such as building access to our PSCs.

The analytical laboratory and cardiac services will also be open on Sundays to allow same day processing and result reporting. In addition, we have extended the operation of our Client Information Centre at 604-507-5070 or Toll free 1-877-507-5595 to include Sundays 0700 - 1700 h.

We hope this Sunday service will help alleviate some of the patient demand which we currently experience on Saturdays and Mondays.

Please direct enquiries to Client Services at 604-507-5040.

Changes to Patient Instructions for Semen Analyses

We would like to highlight two changes to our collection procedure for semen analyses.

- In an effort to reduce the interval between collection and testing (which may affect sperm motility results), we have made changes to our specimen drop-off appointment times which have resulted in fewer appointment times, especially on Saturdays. However, we do not believe this will lead to a significant increase in the wait time to obtain an appointment. **Please note that all semen analyses (for fertility investigations or post-vasectomy) must be booked by the patient by calling our Client Information Centre, Monday to Friday between 0900 - 1700 h at 604-507-5070 or Toll Free at 1-877-507-5595.**
- The patient brochure outlining semen collection instructions has been updated with some minor changes. One of these changes is an accreditation requirement that we obtain information from the patient regarding the number of days since he last had an ejaculation. The patient is asked to provide this information on the brochure. Please discard your current copies and request replacement copies using the BC Biomedical Stores order form.

Please direct enquiries to any member of the Hematopathology Group at 604-507-5000.



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Christmas and New Year Message

In appreciation of our association during the past year, we extend our very best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

Our hours of operation during the holidays are as follows:

December 24, 2011	Saturday	Open till 12 noon
December 25, 2011	Sunday	Closed
December 26, 2011	Monday	Closed
December 27, 2011	Tuesday	Closed
December 31, 2011	Saturday	Open till 12 noon
January 1, 2012	Sunday	Closed
January 2, 2012	Monday	Closed

Note: The Client Information Centre @ 604-507-5070 is open from 0700 - 1700 h on December 24 and December 31.

Histone Antibodies

BC Biomedical Laboratories has recently added a test for antibodies directed against histones to our test menu. Histones are basic DNA-associated proteins which help to stabilize the DNA double helix and may play a role in gene regulation.

Antibodies against histones are seen in drug-induced lupus erythematosus (DLE), systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and rheumatoid arthritis. The drugs associated with DLE include procainamide, hydralazine, isoniazid and others.

To order, please request "anti-histone antibodies" on the laboratory requisition. The test will be reported as part of the Extractable Nuclear Antigen (ENA) profile.

Please direct enquiries to any member of the Hematopathology Group at 604-507-5000.



Did You Know?

- Community isolates of *E.coli*, compared to *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* isolates, are now more commonly demonstrating multiple antibiotic resistance. We used to think of *P. aeruginosa* as being a resistant bacteria and *E.coli* as quite susceptible to antibiotics. Antibiotic pressures have now made community isolates of *E.coli* more frequently resistant to ciprofloxacin, ceftazidime and aminoglycosides.
- Correct identification and labeling of specimens is critically important to patient safety. BC Biomedical routinely monitors the incidence of mislabeled specimens as a Quality Indicator. Our current mislabeled rate is 1/100,000 patients. Although this is amazingly good and is better than industry benchmarks, we continue to look for ways to reduce this further as only a zero mislabeled rate is acceptable.



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