

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why are we introducing a new way of charting specimens?

Eastern Health, in conjunction with the EMR and Pathology teams, is implementing the new Specimen Collection Module (SCM) as part of the EMR suite. This will streamline collection of pathology samples through EMR at the Point of Care, and improve patient safety by using patient and specimen barcoding and electronic charting. The SCM will reduce pathology collection errors leading to fewer specimen recollects, ensuring right patient: right results, and improve turnaround time.

2. Who will see the new Specimen Collection Module (SCM) screens?

Wherever a collection task has been generated as a result of a clinician ordering a pathology test (with the exception of some Perioperative orders).

3. When will I have to use the new Specimen Collection Module (SCM)?

The new functionality will appear with the Extended EMR rollout taking place at BHH. All sites will see the new screens from Saturday 28th, October at 1800 whenever a specimen collection task is selected.

4. What is changing with the way we collect and chart specimens?

As of 1800 on Saturday 28th, October at the time of collection the following changes:

- ***There is NO longer a REQUIREMENT for a paper request form - send the barcoded containers ONLY to Pathology***
HOWEVER - There is one very IMPORTANT EXCEPTION –
ALL requests for Cross Match or Group and Hold MUST be accompanied by a signed request form as per the current Zero Tolerance policy.
- Other exceptions for a printed referral are:
- Blood Gases, MET Calls and 24h hour urines
- Pathology Collection Deviations forms will be required in the instance of:
 - shared samples
 - difficult collects
 - add on tests

5. What is NOT changing?

MET call and Code Blue samples will still be accepted using hand-written requests. You must still print the EMR requisition or use a hand written "Request for Blood Products" form if the specimen is for Cross Match or Group and Hold requests.

Only manual handwritten orders for Code Blues and MET will be accepted by pathology for processing.

6. Where will the new EMR Specimen Collection Module (SCM) be used?

Across all areas of Eastern Health where EMR is currently used for ordering pathology tests.

7. Where can I get help during the go-live period?

If you are situated at BHH you can seek out the help of your roving EMR Extension Project Super User. If you are located at any other site you can check out the online reference guides (see below) or call the EMR Command Centre on 919(47500) for the first 4 weeks of the go-live.

8. Where can I get training from?

The functionality of the SCM is very easy. You just need to remember to scan the patient's wristband (BHH) and scan the label barcodes for each specimen collected. Don't forget to click '**Sign**' to finalise charting.

You would have received an email to do the quick SCM iLearn training course ([click here](#)) and search Pathology Collection in the Find Courses search area. You can also use it as revision! The Quick Reference Guides can be found on the EMR website ([click here](#)).

9. I work in Theatres/ED are we going live too?

Only if you work at BHH ask your Super User if you need assistance. For non-BHH sites you will continue using your usual pathology ordering process. This will change in time. We will let you know closer to the time.