****

**Pathology Department Test Turnaround Times**

For each test performed by Pathology you will see a reference to the Turnaround Time (or TAT) for that particular test in the Pathology Handbook.



**“Turnaround Time**”

Refers to the time period from receipt of the specimen and test requisition by the laboratory to the time when the result is available.

**TATs are influenced by a number of factors**, some examples include:

* A test may require dilution and repeat testing due to very high levels of a particular analyte which are beyond the detectable limits of the assay.
* Tests may require long periods of incubation and additional supplementary testing to obtain a final result.
* Specimens may require transportation to the central Box Hill laboratory for processing or referral to a Reference laboratory for confirmatory testing.

In circumstances where specimens require further testing and TATs may be prolonged, all significant interim results and an estimated time to final result availability will be communicated to the requesting clinician.