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PATHOLOGY TESTING FOR AUSTRALIAN LYME PATIENTS

Hi all,

I am a Health, Fitness and Life-Style Consultant based in Sydney, Australia. I work with all kinds of clientele – including those with chronic illnesses. I am very aware of Lyme Disease in Australia, and am doing my bit to help get recognition of the disease.

I am aware that a number of Lyme patients have difficulty convincing their Doctor(s) to do certain tests for them. A lot of the time it is due to the Doctor's scepticism (rest assured I DO believe Lyme can be caught here – and I am very sympathetic to those that suffer this terrible condition!).

Here's where I can help.

As a Health Practitioner, I have the ability to write Pathology Request Forms (PRF) for a number of reputable Pathology Testing Labs in Australia. I am trying to build on this list, but as it stands at the moment, I have associations with the following Labs:

- Douglas Hanly Moir (DHM). www.dhm.com.au
- Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology (the sister company of DHM in Queensland). www.snp.com.au
- Australian Biologics. www.australianbiologics.com.au
- Pathlab (Integrative Medicine branch of Dorevitch). www.dorevitch.com.au
For those that live in Sydney and the Central Coast, Dorevitch have an association with Laverty Pathology www.laverty.com.au

Note: For collection centre locations, refer to the relevant website above.

I am very excited about being able to offer this service to my patients/clients; it allows me to provide an even more holistic service to them. And I am happy to be able to extend this service to Lyme Patients.

So if you have difficulty convincing your Doctor to run tests for you, or you can't get to a Doctor yourself (due to your location or ill-health), and would like to get some tests done, I would be happy to help. I have price lists for a lot of the tests that these Labs offer. DHM have also advised me that I have access to most of their tests – which is great news.

There is a "catch" though. As I am not a Doctor, I do not have a Provider Number – which means that any tests you request would not be Medicare-refundable. Having said that, Douglas Hanly Moir's prices, for example, are actually quite reasonable (see below). They also have a "Patient Episode Initiation Fee", which is essentially a fee for collecting the sample when you go to the lab to do the test. This charge is \$17.40.

There is also a fee of \$25 per PRF, to cover my administrative time (to liaise with you about what you want tested, write the form, post it to you etc). Please note that this fee does not include discussion/consultation about your results. Discussion about your results, and further consultation about your health and wellbeing, is welcomed, however this would be additional cost, and would be charged as per the rates listed on our website (see below).

With regards to what tests these labs have for Lyme (that I can obtain for you), and the associated costs, these are the ones I have been advised to date:

Douglas Hanly Moir

- Borrelia Burgdoferi Serology (ELISA): \$15.75
- Borrelia Burgdoferi Serology (Western Blot). The test is sent to Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH). DHM couldn't give me a price on this - as it would be RNSH that invoices you.
- Bartonella Heneslae PCR (from swab of a skin lesion, rash etc) \$36.10
- Bartonella Heneslae Serology - \$29.20

Note: DHM have discontinued the LSM CD57 test

There is also a Borelliosis PCR, which is done by biopsy. However I am not authorised to write a script for this; only a Doctor can.

FYI, standard serology (Immunoglobulin testing) for most pathogenic agents such EBV, CMV, HPV, Chlamydia etc are all \$15.75.

Australian Biologics

- Borrelia PCR (Whole blood) - \$350
- Borrelia PCR (Urine) - \$200

If you are newly diagnosed, suspect you have other co-infections, or are still trying to get a handle on everything that is going on with you, I would recommend running a battery of tests – to rule out other possible causes of your unwellness. Although the individual costs of the tests may add up, considering that there is often a consultation fee to see your Doctor (to be able to ask them to order tests for you) it may turn out that there isn't much of a difference utilising this method to get tested.

So if you wish to get any testing done, please feel free to contact me.

Regards



Mal Pace (Cert. Nut. | L1 Holistic Life-Style Coach | Member:AFN | Ass.Dip.Mech.Eng | Cert IV Fitness)

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