

Having Bloodwork at a Community Lab

Your doctor wants you to have bloodwork done at a community lab. This reduces the number of times we ask you to come to the cancer centre. This also reduces the number of people in the cancer centre at any one time.

Scheduling your appointment at a community lab

- Plan to have your bloodwork done 1 week before your appointment with the doctor (unless your doctor gave you different instructions).
- Most community labs require you to make an appointment to have bloodwork done. This reduces the number of people in the community lab at any one time.
- To schedule your appointment, go online to the community lab's website. This allows you to check on the availability of appointment times at the community lab closest to you. You need to check other locations if this community lab doesn't have appointment options that work for you. Scheduling your appointment on the website can be faster than calling on the phone.

OHIP coverage of bloodwork tests

Some bloodwork tests ordered by your doctor may not be covered by OHIP. This means your community lab will charge you a fee for these tests. Your community lab will provide you with this information. If this is a concern for you, talk to the doctor about it. The doctor will tell you why you need to have this bloodwork test(s). The bloodwork test(s) may be covered by your private insurance plan. Contact your private insurance company about this.

Talk to a member of your healthcare team if you have questions or do not understand any information in this handout. Your nurse will have given you the number to call between the hours of 8:30 am and 4 pm from Monday to Friday. The cancer centre is closed on weekends and holidays.

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