

CHANGES TO LABORATORY BASED HIV DIAGNOSIS AND GP LIAISON EXPERIENCES

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HIV diagnostic testing is undergoing a transformation from serology, introduced into Australia in the 1980's, to detect antibodies and antigens to modern molecular methods to detect the HIV viral RNA. This will have a favourable impact on early HIV diagnosis and remove the uncertainty of indeterminate serology results. After many years of experience with providing GPs and other clinicians with their first ever HIV diagnosis lessons have been learnt to help facilitate the first encounter of people living with HIV with an HIV specialist.