

A Guide to Rule 3 Exemptions

ACT Pathology has produced the following user-friendly guide to tests covered by the Rule 3 exemption to assist practitioners in its appropriate application. The information in this guide has been derived from the latest edition of the Medicare Benefits Schedule.

Where a pathology request fits into any of the criteria outlined in the guide, the request form must be endorsed "Rule 3 Exemption" for the request to be valid. This request is then valid for six (6) months or six (6) episodes, whichever occurs first.

***NOTE: The exception to the above is INR:** any number of repeat testing can be performed (not limited to six) within the 6 months of the request date.

For outpatients, Rule 3 Exemption is valid for:

Test	Condition/ Therapy
INR *	Warfarin, anticoagulants
Lithium	lithium therapy
FBC, ESR, Retic	chemotherapy for neoplastic disease or immunosuppressant therapy
FBC, ESR, Retic	clozaril, ticlopidine hydrochloride, methotrexate, gold, sulphasalazine, penicillamine
LFT alanine aminotransferase, albumin, alkaline phosphatase, bilirubin (total), Gamma glutamyl transferase (GGT) EUC Creatinine, Potassium, Sodium, Urea	On Methotrexate or leflunomide

Phone 02 5124 2932 Fax 02 5124 2815

actpathology@act.gov.au

www.health.act.gov.au/services/act-pathology

Gilmore Crescent Garran ACT 2605 PO Box 11 Woden ACT 2606

Acetoacetate, acid phosphatase, ammonia, amylase, aspartate aminotransferase, beta-hydroxybutyrate, bicarbonate, bilirubin (any fractions), C-reactive protein, Calcium (total or corrected for albumin), Chloride, Creatine kinase, Globulin, Glucose, Lactate, Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), Lipase, Magnesium, Phosphate, Pyruvate, Total protein, Total cholesterol, Triglycerides, Urate	On Methotrexate or leflunomide
Urea, Creatinine, Electrolytes	Patient on: Cis-platin, Cyclosporin, or chronic renal failure of a patient being treated in a dialysis program conducted by a recognised hospital.
Albumin, Calcium	Therapy with Vitamin D, its metabolites or analogues.
Calcium, phosphate, magnesium, potassium, urea, creatinine, electrolytes	Cancer patients receiving bisphosphonate infusions

Phone 02 5124 2932 Fax 02 5124 2815

actpathology@act.gov.au

www.health.act.gov.au/services/act-pathology

Gilmore Crescent Garran ACT 2605 PO Box 11 Woden ACT 2606