



Hôpital général de Nipissing Ouest
West Nipissing General Hospital

725, chemin Coursol Road, Sturgeon Falls, ON P2B 2Y6

LABORATORY SERVICES

FAQ

(Frequently Asked Questions)

How do I prepare for the test? Can I eat before the test?

In order to interpret certain test results accurately, you may be asked to fast (not eating any food or drinking any liquids for several hours or even overnight). This is because the levels of many analytes become elevated in the bloodstream after eating and fluctuate depending on when you have eaten or the amount of food consumed. When you fast, these variations are eliminated. In addition to fasting, you may be asked abstain from caffeine or nicotine, physical activity or specific foods.

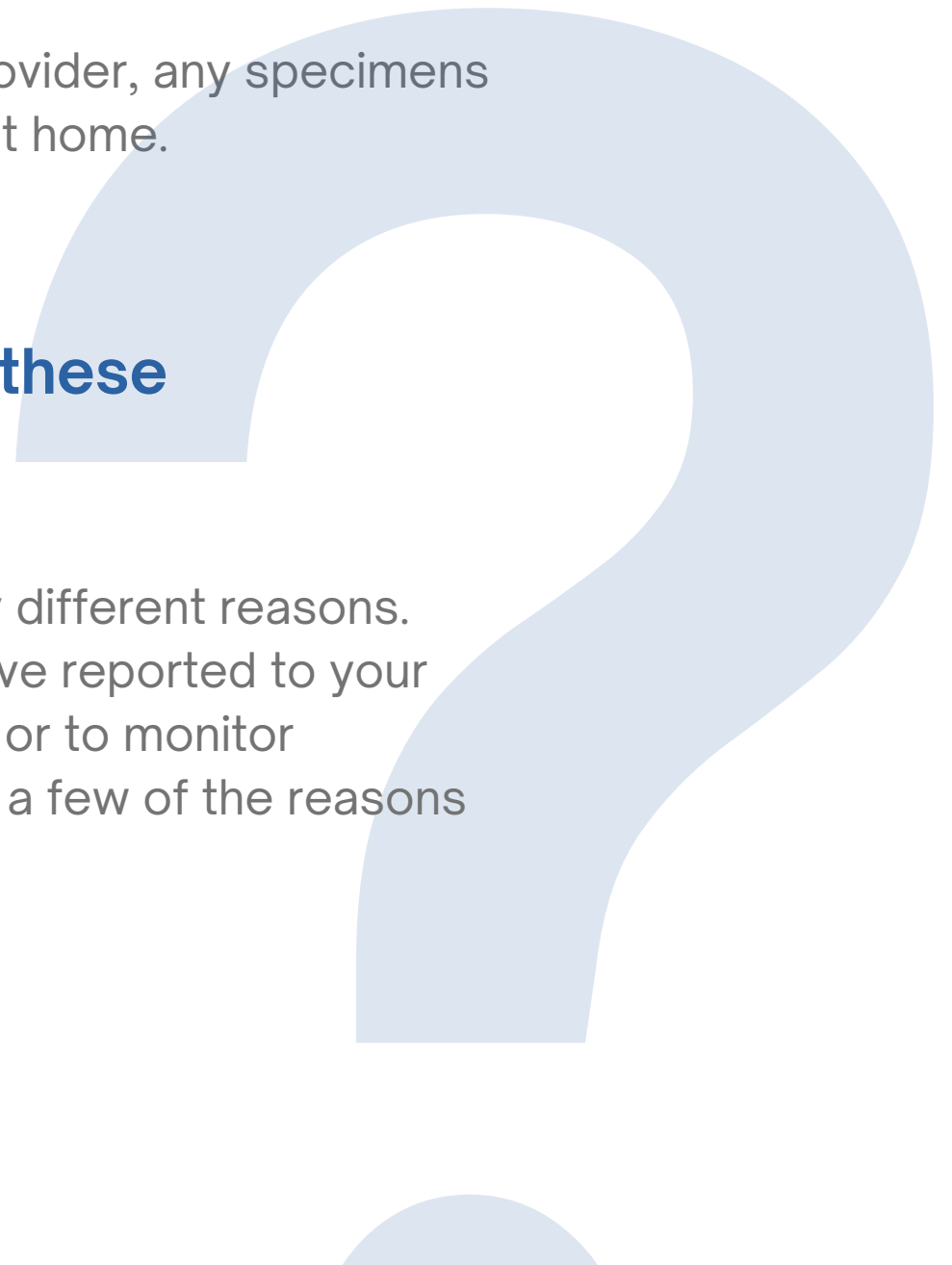
What should I take with me to go to the Lab as an Outpatient?

When visiting the Lab, you should bring the following information with you:

- A completed and signed test requisition form(s) from your healthcare provider requesting laboratory testing;
- Your provincial health card; and
- If requested by your healthcare provider, any specimens that you were required to collect at home.

Why has my doctor ordered these lab tests?

Laboratory tests are ordered for many different reasons. Perhaps because of a concern you have reported to your doctor, to check an existing condition or to monitor prescribed medication. These are just a few of the reasons your doctor may order lab tests.

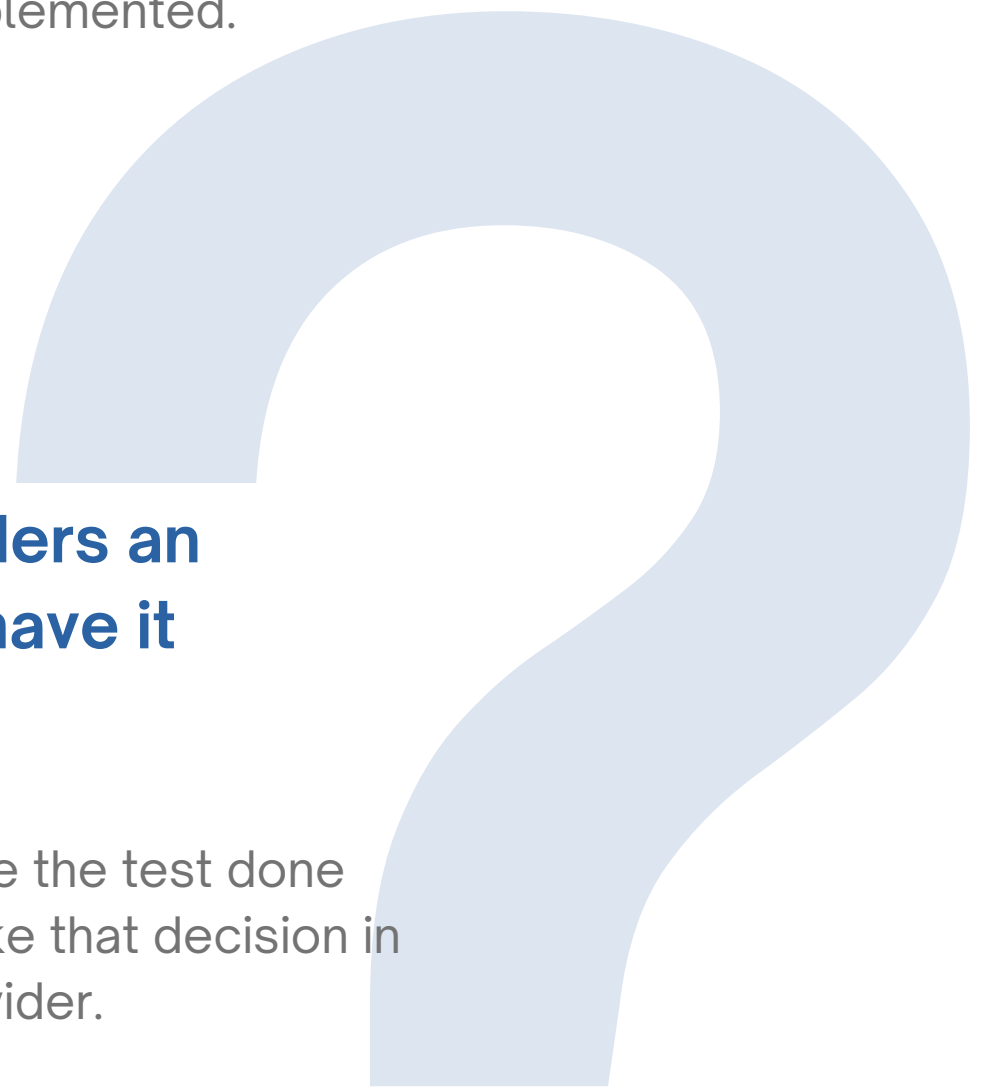


Do I have to pay for my laboratory tests?

The Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) covers most laboratory tests; however there are some specialized, non-routine tests that are not covered. The West Nipissing General Hospital is not funded for these tests therefore a billing policy has been implemented.

If my healthcare provider orders an uninsured test, do I have to have it done?

You do have the right to refuse to have the test done however we recommend that you make that decision in consultation with your healthcare provider.



Can the cost of my test be reimbursed by my supplemental health insurance?

Every insurance plan is different. Contact your insurance provider to be sure.

How long will my lab visit take?

We do our best to make sure that patients are served in a timely manner. Patients are processed numerically, although some patients will be processed on a priority basis due to specialty clinic requirements.

Will the blood collection process hurt?

Our laboratory staff are professionally trained to ensure that you are comfortable throughout the collection process. If you have any concerns please address them with the laboratory technician.

Are my laboratory tests confidential?

Yes. All medical information is highly confidential. The WNGH follows strict guidelines to ensure patient confidentiality. The results of your laboratory tests are only given to the submitting doctor and if your doctor asks, we will forward the results to another doctor.

When and how will my doctor get the results?

While some results are available in 24 hours, others require more complex testing or may have to be sent to a reference laboratory. These results can take several days to weeks to report.

The timing by which your doctor receives results depends on the tests ordered and as well how your doctor receives reports from WNGH.

