1. Purpose

1.1 The Donath-Landsteiner Antibody (DLA) Test will be referred to the Children’s Hospital Westmead (CHW) when requested in NSW Health Pathology laboratories.

2. Background

2.1 Referring requests for the Donath-Landsteiner Antibody Test to a laboratory which conducts the test frequently will ensure better quality assurance of results.

3. Scope

3.1 This procedure is mandatory and applies to all pre-analytical, scientific and haematology staff involved in DLA testing in NSW Health Pathology.

4. Procedure

4.1 Donath-Landsteiner Test

4.1.1 The Donath-Landsteiner test is the diagnostic test for Paroxysmal Cold Haemoglobinuria (PCH).

4.1.2 The causative antibody of PCH is a biphasic IgG haemolysin. It binds optimally to red cells at 4°C and causes haemolysis optimally at 37°C.

4.1.3 PCH was traditionally associated with tertiary or congenital syphilis but is now found more often in children/adults after a viral illness.

4.1.4 The antibody specificity is usually anti-P. Other reported specificities include anti-I and Pr.

4.2 Preparing the Specimen for Transportation

4.2.1 CHW Haematology Department requires 4 to 5 millilitres of patient serum collected in a serum tube with no gel and separated at 37°C.

4.2.2 Once the serum has been separated it can be stored and transported to CHW Haematology Department frozen.

4.2.3 CHW Haematology Department requires clinical history, a copy of the patient’s blood group and full blood count (FBC) to be sent with the specimen.

4.2.4 Sample identification requirements are the same as standard requirements (non-transfusion).

5. Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 This procedure is mandatory and applies to all pre-analytical, scientific and haematology staff involved in DLA testing in NSW Health Pathology.

5.2 Should the requirement to conduct a test within a NSW Health Pathology laboratory arise, the approval of the NSW Health Pathology Chief Executive is required.
6. Review
This procedure will be reviewed by 31/10/2018.

7. Risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Statement</th>
<th>Referring Donath-Landsteiner Antibody Test to CWH, a reference laboratory that conducts the test frequently, ensures better quality assurance of results.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Risk Category</td>
<td>Clinical Care and Patient Safety</td>
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8. Further Information
For further information, please contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Contact Officer</th>
<th>Position: Chair, Transfusion Clinical Stream</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>Name: Associate Professor Mark Dean</td>
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9. Version History
The approval and amendment history for this document is listed in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version No</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>Approved By</th>
<th>Approval Date</th>
<th>Risk Rating</th>
<th>Sections Modified</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>01/11/16</td>
<td>Executive Leadership Team</td>
<td>01/11/16</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>New Procedure.</td>
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