

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR SERVICE USERS

To: All users of Viapath Blood Sciences Laboratories
at KCH Denmark Hill site

From: Viapath Blood Sciences Laboratories, KCH Denmark Hill site

Date/ Time: 1st September 2021

Subject: Important changes in response to current blood tube shortage

Primary Care and community care

All primary care and community testing must be halted until 17 September 2021, except for clinically urgent testing. Examples of clinically urgent testing include:

- Bloods that are required to facilitate a two week wait referral
- Bloods that are extremely overdue and/or essential for safe prescribing of medication or monitoring of condition
- Bloods that if taken could avoid a hospital admission or prevent an onward referral
- Those with suspected sepsis or conditions with a risk of death or disability

In addition to the above, please be advised that changes are being implemented to reduce the number of EDTA tubes used in the laboratories.

Laboratories will share a single EDTA sample for full blood count (FBC), and haemoglobin A1C (HbA1C) from Wednesday 1st September

Please therefore take **one sample only** for any combination of these tests (only a single specimen collection barcode will print from EPR when both FBC and HbA1c ordered).

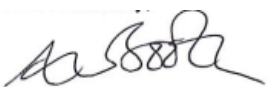
Please assist by ensuring tubes are adequately filled to prevent low volume samples from being rejected.

IT systems including TQuest, Trust EPR and Winpath have been updated to reflect these changes.

Historical orders may prompt to take 2 samples, please do this whilst the processes are changing.

It is expected that this is a temporary change and will be reviewed when the current issue resolves.

Your faithfully,



Analie Booth, Divisional Operations Director.