

Dear Red Cell Laboratory service user

This is a reminder to all users of our acceptance criteria for referrals.

All referrals must come with the correct Viapath Red Cell Protein referral form which can be found here: http://www.viapath.co.uk/sites/default/files/upload/Referral%20to%20Red%20cell%20lab%20form_0.pdf

It is vital all aspects of this form are completed as we have recently had problems with incorrect forms or partially completed forms resulting in the following issues:

- 1.0 Failure to identify referring Hospital fully can delay analysis and can result in result not going back to referrer
- 2.0 Failure to clearly identify test required can result in a delay to analysis or incorrect test being performed
- 3.0 Failure to supply aspects of FBC and the reticulocyte count mean that we cannot perform a rapid G6PD screen test. This causes delay in results and means the longer and more expensive full assay has to be done. We are planning to introduce a new assay method which will give a quicker turnaround and this will also require these parameters. A printed copy of the FBC and reticulocytes can be sent rather than transcribe results. It can also result in an incomplete interpretive comment.

Notification of introduction of a new G6PD Quantitative assay method

We are writing to inform you of a change in analysis we intend to implement in the near future. We currently offer an in-house 2-stage method for red cell G6PD enzyme quantification.

This method is labour-intensive, and time consuming and hence our 10 day maximum TTAT quoted for this. In order to improve turnaround times and consolidate our services, we are planning to implement a new G6PD enzyme quantification method, by Point Scientific. This test is currently offered by our partners at Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust.

In order for us to perform this test, we require the following information with your sample:

- Full Blood Count indices, particularly Haemoglobin and White Cell Count
- Reticulocyte Count

Without this information, we will be unable to process samples using the new quantification method. This may result in a delay in processing your sample, or rejection of the sample. Sample type and requirements remain the same.

We intend to offer this new G6PD quantification method as a UKAS accredited test. We continue to offer our G6PD screening service, as well as our other red cell enzyme services.

Our Business Partners will be in touch with you, however if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us on 020 3299 2455 or at kch-tr.redcelllab@nhs.net

Yours sincerely,

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