Inherited Metabolic Disease Laboratory
Biochemical Sciences, Viapath
4th floor, North Wing
St Thomas' Hospital
Westminster Bridge Road
SE1 7EH

22nd December 2014

Dear Service User,

The Inherited Metabolic Disease laboratory at Viapath, St. Thomas' hospital, is implementing a new demand management policy regarding urine amino acid analysis. Urine amino acid analysis is not recommended as a first line test for the investigation of inherited metabolic disorders and plasma is the preferred sample type. Hence, from Monday 5th January, we will be reviewing all requests for urine amino acids and will not be analysing samples where the request is not deemed to be clinically indicated. These samples will be reported with the following comment and only analysed if the requesting clinician or laboratory contacts the IMD laboratory to request analysis.

Urine amino acid analysis is not recommended as a first line investigation for inherited metabolic disease. This sample will not be analysed and will be stored for 3 months. Please contact the laboratory on 0207 188 9652 to discuss if analysis is clinically indicated.

Urine amino acid analysis *is* recommended in the investigation of the following disorders:

- Primary renal tubular disease including cystinuria, lysinuric protein intolerance, Hartnup disease.
- Renal tubular dysfunction secondary to another inherited metabolic disorder (IMD) including mitochondrial disease
- Sulphite oxidase deficiency and molybdenum cofactor deficiency
- Hypophosphatasia

Please ensure all requests are accompanied by appropriate clinical details to ensure that any appropriate requests are not delayed.

Please contact the laboratory directly if you have any queries or concerns regarding this policy.

Thank you for your understanding,

The Viapath Team
Inherited Metabolic Disease Laboratory
St.Thomas' Hospital
Tel: 0207 188 9652

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