Protocol for Significant Laboratory Results

HEPATITIS B (HBsAG)

Woman is found to be hepatitis B surface antigen positive (HBsAG)

Virologist sends a letter and copy of report, from West of Scotland Specialist Virology Centre (WoSSVC) to:
- the named outpatient manager, or deputy, at the maternity unit responsible for woman’s antenatal care
- the nominated hepatitis B obstetrician at the maternity unit (including initial advice on management of the neonate)
- cc’d to Sandyford Shared Care Support Service – Tel: 0141 211 8639
- the GP (if patient registered)

The Public Health Protection Unit (PHPU) is notified electronically on a weekly basis.

All screen positive samples are confirmed and issued to the named clinician within 15 days of the screening test. (Standard 3e.2)

The nominated obstetricians for hepatitis B will ensure that the woman’s named obstetrician carries out the following:

The woman is recalled and repeat blood tests to confirm identity are carried out
The woman is informed of the result within 21 days of screening test (Standard 3c.4) and understands the meaning of the result and need for immunisation of the baby.
The woman is immediately referred to the local hepatitis service (Gastroenterology or Infectious Diseases) for clinical review and advice
Sandyford Shared Care Support Service will co-ordinate the screening of family members and contact tracing.
The woman is given an appointment to attend for review at 26 weeks.
The hepatitis B status and management plan is clearly documented in the Neonatal section of the Yellow Alert Sheet which starts every inpatient maternity record

Refer to the NHS GGC Obstetric Guidelines – ‘Hepatitis B positive Management of women identified through antenatal screening’ (May 2012)

The woman’s consultant ensures appropriate instructions received from the laboratory for initial management of the baby are documented in the proforma supplied by the virus lab. n.b. the Hep B DNA levels taken at 26 weeks may alter the initial advice given, and this should be documented accordingly.

Maternity staff inform the paediatric team immediately after birth to ensure appropriate treatment is given as soon as is possible, and within 24 hours of birth. Immunisation form completed and faxed or emailed (HepB.Screening@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) to Community Screening Department within

Community Screening Department records immunisation and recalls child for all subsequent immunisations. GP refers child at 12 months to appropriate paediatrician, for blood test to check immunity

Paediatrician checks blood test and informs Community Screening department of result.

Before discharge from the maternity unit, a check should be made that the woman has already attended the hepatitis service and if not, a further appointment at 2 months is made.