31st December 2013

Dear Clinician,

RE: WoSSVC Hepatitis B DNA testing of Occupational Health Workers involved in Exposure Prone Procedures (EPP)

In order to continue to provide you with an efficient and reliable service for testing of the occupational health workers, we would appreciate your co-operation in providing the samples in a minimum of two 9ml EDTA tubes for each visit. These tubes should be sent without separation of plasma from the whole blood sample.

For individuals undergoing routine yearly monitoring, we require paired samples obtained a minimum of one week apart (not more than one month apart). We intend to test the two samples in parallel, so we anticipate your participation in this regard. Please send each sample as soon as it is taken to avoid degradation of the specimen.

For individuals on treatment, a single sample should be provided every three months as per protocol.

Please provide the samples with the completed request form. The request form is available from our departmental website: www.nhsggc.org.uk/virology

The sample will not be tested if the request form has not been fully completed. The sample will be stored and a report will be issued to the sender with a reminder to contact the laboratory with the relevant details.

We would also like to stress the importance of indicating where the results should be sent and who should be invoiced for this work - a space has been provided for this on the request form.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries in this regard.

Kind Regards,

Dr Celia Aitken