



## GP Electronic Order Comms (ICE)

## Clyde Sector

- An initial pilot of this scheme covering 11 practices started over the summer and was evaluated at a meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. Further changes to the software were requested and implemented by the 22<sup>nd</sup> October.
- A further 60 practices will be trained by December 2014 mainly in Clyde and all GG&C practices should have the system by summer 2015.
- The GP order comms system is paperless for Biochemistry and Haematology
- Microbiology still **require a request form**.
- It is vital that ICE labels are:
  - Printed legibly
  - Placed one label per tube only, ensure to match label with correct tube type
  - Placed vertically on tube to facilitate bar code scanning
- Please ensure tubes are filled correctly
- Blood Films –FBC results will decide the need for a blood film so don't request a blood film in isolation.
- If you need a glandular fever screening test then add a FBC to the request.
- If you have a ?Malaria then please phone 0141 314 6158 to let them know the sample is on its way.
- Please continue to phone laboratories for urgent requests and send samples in pink transport bags to your nearest hospital for quick processing.
- Further information on implementation can be obtained from the project manager Lin Calderwood at [lin.calderwood@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:lin.calderwood@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)



## Expired blood tubes

There have been a number of incidents recently where labs have received blood tubes which have passed their expiry date and which have had to be rejected. Could all GP's be reminded to check blood tube expiry dates prior to use.

## Intrinsic Factor

Due to concerns raised by users around turnaround times and lost reports for Intrinsic Factor GG&C have made the decision to take this work in-house from Lanarkshire. From early 2015 the work will be sent to the Immunology Department at the Southern General Hospital where it will be processed alongside Parietal Cell testing.

## Vitamin D Request Intervention

Guidance is available on prescribing vitamin D in the context of osteomalacia and/or where low levels of serum vitamin D have been measured. Follow-up measurements are not required unless there are exceptional circumstances e.g. malabsorption & suboptimal Vitamin D. Request intervention will not permit repeat measurements within 340 days except for specialist units.

Further guidance can be found on GG&C Staffnet using the following link;

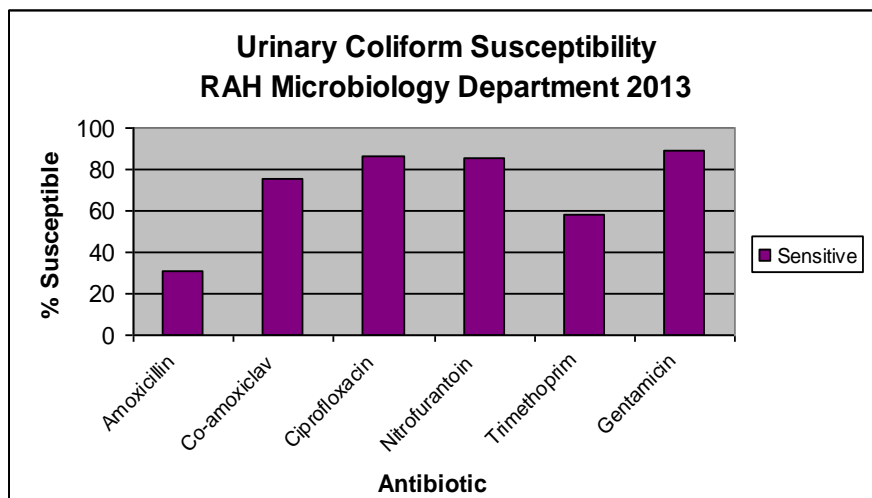
[http://www.staffnet.ggc.scot.nhs.uk/Info\\_Centre/PoliciesProcedures/GGCClinicalGuidelines/GGC\\_Clinical\\_Guidelines\\_Electronic\\_Resource\\_Direct/Vitamin\\_D\\_Measurement\\_and\\_Therapy\\_Osteoporosis\\_and\\_Osteomalacia.pdf](http://www.staffnet.ggc.scot.nhs.uk/Info_Centre/PoliciesProcedures/GGCClinicalGuidelines/GGC_Clinical_Guidelines_Electronic_Resource_Direct/Vitamin_D_Measurement_and_Therapy_Osteoporosis_and_Osteomalacia.pdf)



## Microbiology

### Urine susceptibility

This chart shows the antibiotic susceptibility of all urinary coliforms reported from the Microbiology laboratory at RAH in 2013. Nearly 4% of urinary coliforms were ESBL producers. (ESBL producers are not susceptible to broad spectrum cephalosporins, and antibiotics such as Co-amoxiclav and Tazocin do not have reliable clinical efficacy).



## Vaginal Swab Processing

NHSGGC Primary Care Guidelines for the investigation of vaginal discharge in women of reproductive age recommend that a vaginal swab should be taken for **recurrent symptoms, treatment failure, symptoms of PID, postpartum or post gynaecological instrumentation**. In line with these guidelines, only vaginal swab culture requests that clearly meet the defined clinical criteria are now processed. Please note the GP referral guidance on Staffnet for IMB/PCB does now **NOT** state HVS as a test.

## Clyde Laboratory Webpage Update

Clyde Laboratory and GP Handbooks are available on the GG&C Staffnet intranet. The homepages have recently been updated and are available on the following links for each specific discipline;

**Biochemistry** On Staffnet follow: **Acute > Diagnostics > All laboratory Medicine > Biochemistry**  
<http://www.staffnet.ggc.scot.nhs.uk/Acute/Diagnostics/All%20Laboratory%20Medicine/Biochemistry/Pages/ClinicalBiochemistry/Homepage.aspx>

**Haematology** **Acute > Diagnostics > All laboratory Medicine > Haematology**  
<http://www.staffnet.ggc.scot.nhs.uk/Acute/Diagnostics/All%20Laboratory%20Medicine/Haematology/Pages/Default.aspx>

**Microbiology** **Acute > Diagnostics > All laboratory Medicine > Microbiology**  
<http://www.staffnet.ggc.scot.nhs.uk/Acute/Diagnostics/All%20Laboratory%20Medicine/Microbiology/Pages/default.aspx>

These pages contain links to the handbooks of all in GG&C i.e. North Sector (GRI), South sector (SGH) and Clyde sector. You can save these pages on "My Links" on the Staffnet Menu Title bar. The former Clyde Laboratory Medicine page will be deleted in the near future.

Note not currently available to NHS Highland practices.

We would be delighted with your feedback on issues that you would like us to address in the newsletter. Comments or suggestions for future articles can be sent to:

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