

CLYDE BIOCHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT



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MEMORANDUM

To: All GP practices sending samples to Clyde Biochemistry and Haematology

From: Dr Iain Jones, Consultant Clinical Biochemist

Date: 06/12/18

RE: The importance of putting samples in the correct bag for transport to laboratories

Please note that it is essential that all samples are placed in the correct coloured bags for onward transport to laboratories.

Whilst laboratories receiving samples in error are expected to forward samples to a suitable laboratory, the delays to analysis caused by misdirection can be as long as several days, resulting in analysis not being possible.

There have been some apparent issues where samples have been taken to the wrong laboratory by sample transport, and these are being looked into as a matter of urgency by laboratories and transport, and monitoring steps put in place to avoid this happening in future, but there are much more frequent examples of samples arriving in the wrong laboratory that do not have an apparent explanation other than their being put into the wrong bag at the point of collection.

A poster is included with this memo to reinforce the correct bag for different laboratory destinations.

Iain Jones
Clinical Lead Biochemistry (Clyde)