



South Sector

Haematology Update to Reference Ranges

As of 27th August, the normal range for haemoglobin, haematocrit, red cell count and lymphocyte count have been changed. The new ranges are as follows:-

Haemoglobin (g/L)	Adult male 130 – 180	Adult Female 115 - 165
Red Blood Cells x10 ¹² /L	Adult male 4.5 – 6.5	Adult Female 3.8 – 5.8
Haematocrit L/L	Adult male 0.4 – 0.54	Adult Female 0.37 – 0.47
Lymphocytes x10 ⁹ /L	1.1 – 5.0	

Assessment of Biochemistry Services

As a user of the biochemistry laboratory your opinion is important to us. In order for us to improve our service we would be grateful if you could spare a couple of minutes to provide some feedback. You can take part by following the link to the survey at:

<https://www.webropolsurveys.com/S/CA19DCDE81B83C0F.par> Thanking you in advance



Revised Colorectal Referral Pathway - Q-FIT Testing

A new innovative testing kit called **Q-FIT** (Quantitative Faecal Immunochemical Test) has recently been introduced to primary care as part of the revised colorectal patient pathway. Q-FIT is designed to detect the presence of haemoglobin in faecal samples from patients presenting with **NEW** lower abdominal symptoms or problems with their bowel habit. Q-FIT test can be ordered via GP ICE from 3rd September 2018.

When considering a referral to secondary care, it is recommended that you undertake the following :- **Abdominal and rectal examinations, blood tests for urea & electrolytes, full blood count, stool for Q-FIT and consider blood for coeliac serology (TTG)**

NHS GGC: Colorectal Referral Pathway

Q. When should I perform a Q-FIT test ?

A. NEW lower abdominal symptoms or alterations in bowel habit

B. Q. Should I request any other tests ?

A. YES, you should request a FULL BLOOD COUNT

NOTE: If both tests are NORMAL the likelihood of significant pathology is LOW and in particular the likelihood of colorectal cancer is <1:1,000.

Q. What do I do if the Q-FIT is POSITIVE (>10 ug/g stool) for faecal haemoglobin ?

A. Urgent referral to the Colorectal service highlighting the Q-FIT result.



Q-FIT Test Kit

There are some **RED FLAG** symptoms that should be referred directly to secondary care

RED FLAG SYMPTOMS	REFERRAL SECTOR
Rectal Mass	USC - Colorectal service
Abdominal mass	USC - Colorectal service
New iron deficiency anaemia	USC - Gastroenterology
Persistent rectal bleeding >4 weeks	USC – Colorectal service + concurrent Q-FIT
New multiple episodes daily of diarrhoea aged >40yr lasting >4 weeks	URGENT referral to Colorectal service + concurrent Q-FIT



NOTE: Each GP practice should have been provided with an initial 4 months' supply of Q-FIT Kits.

Additional Q-FIT Kits will be available to order from PECOS in units of 10 using the code **QFIT10** – Q Fit Kit



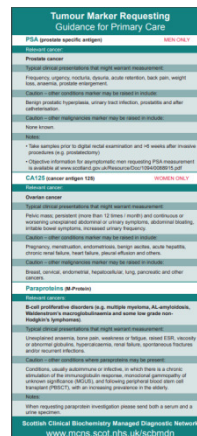
Tumour Marker Requesting Bookmark

A bookmark "Tumour Marker Requesting - Guidance for Primary Care" has been developed by the Scottish Clinical Biochemistry Managed Diagnostic Network (SCBMDN). Incorporating published evidence-based guidance, it has the support of NHS Scotland, the Scottish Realistic Medicine programme, the Royal College of Pathologists and the Scottish Primary Care Cancer Group.

The bookmark can be accessed via the NHSGGC Biochemistry website, which also has information on a selection of other tumour markers.

http://www.nhsggc.org.uk/media/250428/tumourmarker_bookmark_web_version-july2018.pdf

Hard copies of the bookmark are also available. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact Mrs Janet Hogg: janet.hogg1@nhs.net

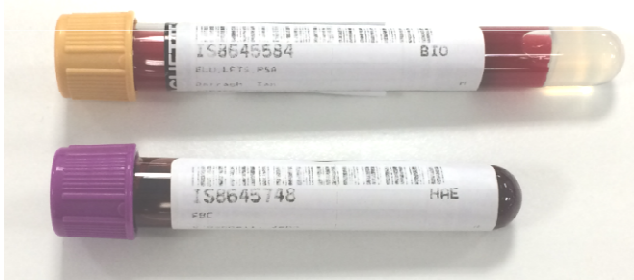


Poor Barcode Labels

We are currently having issues with some of the labels on the GP ICE requests due to "faded" labels (see image).

When labels are faded, we must manually type in the request into our computer system. As much as we try to ensure the correct information is input, any system that requires manual transcription is more likely to lead to errors.

Could you please look at the labels produced in your practice. If they are faded, please could you do the following:-



Q. Is the 'printer' head of the machine clean? Fluff/dirt build up on the 'printing' surface can stop the heat from getting to the label.

Q. Is it possibly a bad batch of labels? We have come across a couple of instances where a new roll of labels work perfectly.

Q. Is the label printer at the end of its life? You may need to log a call with Daisy for a new label printer.

Add-On service

NON-URGENT add on tests can be requested using the add-on email address below :-

SouthGlasgow.BiochemistryAddOn@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

You **MUST** include the following information in your email: **CHI Number/DOB, Surname, Date & Time of original sample, Original location of sample, Test/Analysis to be added on**. This will be responded to Mon-Fri 09:00-17:00

For **URGENT** "add-on" biochemistry requests between 09:00 - 17:00 Monday - Friday and 09:00 - 12:30 weekends and public holidays contact **0141 354 9060** and select appropriate option. Out of hours requests, **page 17684** or page on-call BMS via switch board.



We would be delighted with your feedback on issues that you would like us to address in the newsletter. We are also keen to reach as large an audience in primary care as possible. Do you have suggestions how we can widen distribution better? Comments or suggestions can be sent to:

Jane McNeilly (j.mcneilly@nhs.net) or Tom Moffat (Tom.Moffat@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)