

CLYDE BIOCHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

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MEMORANDUM

To: All GP Practices Clyde
From: Dr Iain Jones, Consultant Clinical Biochemist
Date: 09/01/20

RE: Please do not send request for tests done by other disciplines on Biochemistry / Haematology request forms.

Dear Colleague,

Requests for tests performed by disciplines other than Biochemistry and Haematology should not be put on Biochemistry and Haematology forms. They should use the specific discipline's request form and include an appropriate separate sample.

For most practices in most cases this will be taken care of by electronic requesting, and it is our understanding that IT will roll out electronic ordering to the remaining NHS Highland practices sending samples to Clyde Laboratories.

Where an additional sample has been provided we have tried to route samples to immunology, but due to ongoing problems with these workarounds failing and requests going astray we can no longer accept immunology requests on Biochemistry forms.

Please use the appropriate immunology form, an electronic copy for printing being available from:

<https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/about-us/professional-support-sites/laboratory-medicine/laboratory-disciplines/immunology-and-neuroimmunology/immunology/laboratory-request-form/>

Immunology samples should be put in the appropriate grey coloured bag for onwards transport to the immunology laboratory.

As an interim measure, for the next 6 months if an immunology request is sent on the same paper request form as Biochemistry and Haematology samples, and there is an appropriate spare

sample, that sample will be sent with a photocopy of the request form to the immunology laboratory, and a reminder sent to the practice not to request immunology tests in this way. From 1/6/2020 this will cease.

Commonly requested immunology tests from primary care include: Coeliac serology, ANA, ANCA, rheumatoid factor and free light chains.

To avoid confusion, I would emphasise that the following tests are analysed in Biochemistry: immunoglobulins, serum electrophoresis, urine Bence Jones, TPO, TSH receptor antibody.

And the following in haematology: Anti cardiolipin.

A number of laboratories send samples to the laboratory by post. It would be our preference that these laboratories post immunology samples directly to the Immunology Laboratory:

Immunology Specimen Reception
First Floor
Laboratory and Facilities Management Building
Queen Elizabeth University Hospitals
1345 Govan Road
Glasgow
G51 4TF

Iain Jones
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