

West Midlands Cervical Screening Services Newsletter

(Part of Black Country Pathology Services)

A big warm welcome to our 2nd Edition of our newsletter, we hope that this finds you well and safe. We are most certainly in challenging and unprecedented times, with our wider services being stretched and we are being asked to support our colleagues, departments and teams in different ways. In light of COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a number changes in the cervical screening services from our usual operation to the implementation of the digital initiatives. The aim of this newsletter is give you an update on the services and what you can expect over the course of the next few weeks and months.

Suspension of cytology collection

As a result of the COVID-19, the trust is facing increasing challenges in delivering a 'routine' service due staff absences, redeployment of our transport and portering services along with limited testing capabilities. Accordingly in consultation with Commissioners and SQAS, as of the 24th March the Trust has suspended all collections from Primary Care and routine screening until further notice. Collections will continue to be made from Colposcopy Units only.

The trust is monitoring the situation closely and working with our commissioning and SQAS colleagues and it is anticipated that the screening programme will recommence shortly. It will possibly focus on those on early recall initially. Any changes will be communicated accordingly as they arise. Any questions or further information required please contact the Cytology department.

Outstanding Screening and Test Results

Samples collected up until 24th March 2020 will continue to be tested and screened as usual.

Due to the limited capacity and backlog please note there may be delay in receiving test results. Any urgency queries please contact the cytology department.

HPV Screening and Results interpretation

We are now full embedded with primary HPV screening across the region; there are no changes to how the samples are taken however the sample is screened differently. pHPV test will be the initial test performed on all cervical screening samples. Those testing hrHPV negative will require no further testing. This meaning there will be no related cytology; subsequently results will read 'no cytology result'. Samples testing positive for hrHPV will be forwarded for LBC processing to produce a cytology slide for screen. The result of this will be included in the final report along with the recommended management.

Changes to sample bags

We have listened to your feedback and the current sample bags will be replaced with larger bags which are sealed. We are awaiting confirmation on delivery, this has been delayed due to COVID-19, and we will notify you when these are available for order. In the meantime please continue to use the current sample bags.

HMR101 Form

Please note the 'non editable' version of the HMR101 form should be the only form used for HPV screening tests. As from the 1st June 2020 any hand written forms are likely to be rejected.

Results Coding

We are aware the current results are not coded (READ) which has presented challenges to practices in filing the results into the patient record. Work is in progress to code the test results and we expect the new format to be implemented shortly.

Please note that the SNOMED transition for Laboratory results in a national Programme which is led by NHS Digital. The proposed date for implementation is expected summer 2021 subject to agreement with all parties.

Rejected Samples 'Best Practice'

In accordance with best practice all samples **must** include Patient Name, DoB and NHS Number.

The table below summarises the error codes and reasons for rejected samples:

ERROR CODE	EXPANSION	COMMENTS
E1	Vial received without form	Contact sender and ask for form. If no form, reject sample and request repeat test to be taken after 3 months
E2	Form received without vial	Contact sender and check sample was taken. If no vial request repeat test to be taken after 3 months
E3	Vial is unlabelled	Inform sender. Reject sample and request new sample to be taken after 3 months
E4	Vial only partially labelled	Follow guidance for minor/major labelling discrepancies
E5	Patient details on form and vial do not match	Significant data inconsistencies require a repeat sample. Inform sender. Reject sample and request new sample to be taken after 3 months
E6	Insufficient patient details on form	Depends on severity. Inform sender. Reject sample and request new sample to be taken after 3 months if major discrepancy
E7	Patient details differ from cytology records	Reject if major labelling discrepancy. If minor discrepancy, check Open Exeter and process but inform sender of error
E8	Valid PIN not provided	Verify PIN. If not verified report sample as inadequate unless sample is abnormal. If verified, record PIN and report sample in the usual way. Inform sender.
E9	Vial spilt in transit/ incorrect container/ brush inappropriately missing or present	Process sample and report as inadequate unless sample is abnormal. Inform sender
E10	Form/vial details illegible	Depends on severity. Inform sender. Reject sample and request new sample to be taken after 3 months
E11	Out of programme sample (age, too early repeat, inappropriate vault)	Inform sender and reject sample
E12	Out-of-date vial	Reject sample. Inform sender. Ask sender to check stock and return any out of date vials to the laboratory for safe disposal
E13	Other	

HPV Conversion Training

There are still a significant number of sample takers who are yet to complete their HPV

conversion. Online training is available at:

<https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/nhs-screening-programmes/>.

Once completed please email your certificate, PIN number and location to

rwh-tr.hpvscreening@nhs.net so that we can update your records.

Update Training

The Cytology Department at New Cross Hospital are contracted by the local Screening and Immunisation Team (S&IT), at Public Health England (PHE), to hold and maintain an accurate register of cervical screening sample takers and their individual update training status.

The training period for a trained sample taker is every 3 years, however, according to our records there is still a significant number of sample takers whose training records are out-of-date and evidence of updated training is required.

If you need to update your training, you can do this by clicking on the link below.

<https://phescreening.blog.gov.uk/2017/10/23/cervical-sample-taker-update-training-e-learning-launch/>

Once completed please email your certificate, PIN number and location to

rwh-tr.hpvscreening@nhs.net, so that we can update your records.

Evidence of Training

To ensure that we hold up to date information on our HPV cervical screening sample takers. Please can you submit all training evidence (certificate) with PIN Number & location, to rwh-tr.hpvscreening@nhs.net

Sample Taker PINs

We are looking at a number of different ways in how we can manage our sample taker database more effectively, which includes making it more

interactive, allowing you to access information on your performance and upload evidence of training etc. We are still in the early stages but we hope to have a new system implemented later this year.

Use of GMC/NMC Codes

We have previously discussed the move to using your GMC/NMC codes as your sample taker PINS. We have been gathering this information from our service users and validating the information. We are still yet to confirm a date for the 'changeover' and will communicate the date in due course.

IT Updates

Electronic Results

All GP Practices should be routinely receiving electronic results together with a paper copy for failsafe and reconciliation purposes.

I can't see the results in our GP system?

Electronic results are sent back to the requesting clinician (GP) indicated on the test request form (HMR101), the results will be sent to the named clinician's workflow in the GP system. RWT is unable to send results directly to a generic practice workflow or sample taker.

If you wish for the results to be sent or viewed by other practice staff, this will need to be managed locally with your GP system supplier.

If you are experiencing any issues with receiving electronic results please contact the IT Project Office. rwh-tr.ict-hpv@nhs.net

Decommissioning of paper results was expected to start early 2020 however this now postponed until further notice due the COVID- 19 crisis.

It should be noted for Colposcopy referrals, the GP practice will receive a paper copy of the results for information.

Electronic Ordering

How you request a cervical screening test will be changing, and you will move to electronic requesting. This will replace the current HMR101 to using a system called ICE (Order Communication and Result Reporting Web Based Solution) which will be accessed by via your GP practice system.

We are currently testing the system and processes with our pilot sites. It was expected following this we would commence rollout to the wider region by CCG area, however due to the current climate we are reviewing plans as we appreciate the resource and operations constraints within the service. Further information will be communicated in due course.

In the meantime we are continuing to progress with our preliminary and set up work. As part of this we contacted GP practices earlier this year to provide information on their sample takers. If you already provided this information thank you, if you have not yet completed please provide this information as soon as possible, or if you have not received the request please contact the IT project office rwh-tr.ict-hpv@nhs.net

Whilst we are working to continue and maintain progress, we recognise that the service is facing challenges and therefore implementation of some initiatives will be postponed and subject to change. If you have any questions or require further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Useful Contacts & Key Contacts

Service Lead

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General Enquiries Tel: 01902 695939

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Direct Referrals Tel 01902 307999 ext. 8714

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PIN Enquiries Tel: 01902 307999 ext. 8699

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Stock Ordering: Tel: 01902 734544

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IT Enquiries: rwh-tr.ict-hpv@nhs.net