

Coventry and Warwickshire Pathology Services

# Pathology Hints and Tips

We aim to provide some quick pointers, reminders and news about pathology services for Primary Care. Please cascade to your practice teams – thank you.

### **CWPS Blood Sciences Laboratory Transformation**

Coventry & Warwickshire Pathology Services are going through a period of transformation. A major procurement for new equipment and technical support has been undertaken. CWPS's new partner is Siemens and over the next year the two organisations will be working together to update the blood sciences equipment across Coventry and Warwickshire.

This is also an opportunity to restructure Pathology services to a hub and spoke model as set out by NHS England. The new model will include multi-disciplinary staff working to ensure a timely, high quality, cost-effective and value-added service.

There will be a hub lab at George Eliot Hospital in Nuneaton where all GP and Outpatient blood sciences work will be analysed. Then two spokes - Essential Service Laboratories (ESLs) at UHCW and Warwick Hospitals which will provide services for Emergency Departments and Inpatients on these sites.

The first phase of this work will see the replacement of the Haematology analysers at the beginning of 2021.

#### What it will mean for GP Practices

<u>Some clinical changes are anticipated</u>, such as some minor reference range changes and for South Warwick GPs, the move from the use of PV to ESR (information will be provided when this change is due to take effect).

<u>Transport changes</u> – as samples migrate to being analysed at George Eliot Hub Lab, there will be a need to reroute the courier runs that collect from GP practices, this is anticipated to happen twice, once during transition and again later in 2021 or early in 2022 when all tests are being undertaken at George Eliot when a final timetable can be created. Again we will let practices know when these changes are to take place.

Updates will be provided as and when they occur throughout 2021.

## **Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) Alert**

AKI Alerts are being introduced in primary care reporting. You will see a new comment when AKI is suspected in a patient. In addition AKI Alerts level 2 and 3 will be telephoned to the practice. This change is based on <a href="AKI: Best Practice Guidance">AKI: Best Practice Guidance</a> from NHS England.

#### Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) assay change is being planned

We will be changing to a different LDH method due to our analyser provider withdrawing the current method. We are in the process of validation and verification of the new method. There will be changes to the current reference limits with this new method. We will provide updates as to implementation date and new reference ranges.

## Pathology Requesting Electronic ordering



The roll out of primary care order comms – tQuest – to our surgeries is continuing during these times of Covid. We have introduced video training aids and combining these with our onsite visit, we are able to reach the majority of surgery staff whilst abiding by government guidelines.

There are only a few surgeries left to have tQuest implemented and the team will be reaching out over the next few weeks to arrange for this to happen. If you would like to contact us to get started then email stacey.hammond@uhcw.nhs.uk or gregory.tindall@uhcw.nhs.uk directly.

**Already using tQuest and have new staff joining the team?** Forgotten how to add new staff? No problem, use the easy to follow Handy Guide below:



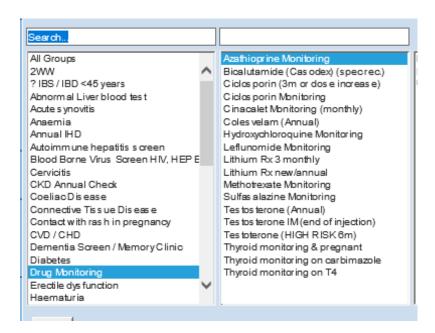
"When to Review, when not to Review....." When you are adding a new member of staff you need to ask yourself if they would benefit from having access to the Review module to see Previous Test Results.



If you are adding a new GP and "proposing" them as a new requester, the team will set this up automatically. If you are adding a new locum, nurse, clinical pharmacist or admin member (ie. a team member who doesn't expect to receive and report their own results) – you may still wish for these to be able to view previous results, so make sure you email

<u>CWPSITteam@uhcw.nhs.uk</u> (or your primary care order comms facilitator) to have this ability added.

<u>New Test Groups available in tQuest:</u> To support Shared Care Agreements within primary care, additional test groups have been added into Drug Monitoring section of Test Groups within tQuest. The Order Comms team worked with the Medicines Management team to identify the most frequently prescribed High Risk drugs.



Feedback on test groups within tQuest is welcome – email <u>stacey.hammond@uhcw.nhs.uk</u> or <u>gregory.tindall@uhcw.nhs.uk</u> with your suggestions and reasoning.

#### **Folding of Submission Forms**

The Specimen Reception team have asked that request forms are folded/torn and put into bags with barcodes, patient details and tests clearly displayed. This will aid turnaround times of requests. They have done a poster which can be printed off and displayed to help remind staff:



#### **Ordering Consumables Reminder**

Please ensure to order your laboratory consumables from QE Transport by completing the order form and emailing it to: <a href="mailto:ghnt.qefstockcwps@nhs.net">ghnt.qefstockcwps@nhs.net</a>

Only emailed orders will be fulfilled.

