

Pathology Hints and Tips May 2026

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

Change in eGFR reporting

Biochemistry has updated eGFR (estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate) reporting by replacing the MDRD equation with the nationally recommended CKD-EPI eGFR. This change removes ethnicity-based adjustments and provides more accurate assessment of kidney function, particularly at higher eGFR levels. The update supports earlier and more reliable diagnosis of chronic kidney disease, improves clinical decision-making around cardiovascular risk and renal-dose medications, and aligns local practice with current evidence and national guidance.

Altaaf Fatiwala - Biochemistry Performance Section Manager

Phlebotomy Clinic Relocation...

Atherstone Memorial Hall phlebotomy clinic has relocated to Atherstone Phlebotomy Clinic, Station Street, CV9 1BB (Next to the bus station.)

Free parking (up to 1 hour) is available at the bus station on Station Street. Or alternatively, free parking (up to 2 hours) is available at Cattle Market Car Park, CV9 1DB.

All clinics are pre-booked appointments only. Please book online at

www.uhcw.nhs.uk/bloodtests

Immunology Referrals

If making a request for advice, please remember to attach the most recent pathology results to your referral. Thank you

tQuest test group – High ALP

You may have noticed Vitamin D and Bone profile (Calcium) have been added to the test group High ALP on tQuest. This change was completed due to feedback received from a GP.

ALP	Tests in Group
High ALP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autoantibody screen (Mitochondrial/Smoc) Bone profile (Calcium) Ferritin Full blood count (FBC) Gamma-glutamyl transferase (GGT) Immunoglobulins Liver Function Test (LFT) Protein Electrophoresis (SPE) Transferrin Vitamin D

Please remind patients they must bring their request form with them to their phlebotomy appointment. We cannot see them if they arrive without.

UHCW ED – Blood-Borne Virus Opt-Out

One year on..

In April 2025, Blood-borne virus opt out testing was introduced in UHCW Emergency Department. Anyone requiring a blood test automatically received a BBV test unless they inform staff they wish to opt out. If a patient tests positive, then the person is offered specialist support with a treatment plan.

A patient who had benefited from the opt out testing shared her story. The patient had repeatedly presented herself to ED and her GP with lots of different health issues over the course of two years and was not tested for BBV over this period. Shortly after opt out went live the patient presented again at ED with gastrointestinal problems and was quickly admitted to hospital due to being so unwell. Her bloods were processed and the patient was diagnosed with HIV.

Since her diagnosis, she has begun treatment and is recovering extremely well.

This highlights how important the BBV opt out programme is and the positive impact it has on patients.

Aimee Corden Virology and Molecular Performance Section Manager

FEEDBACK CORNER: tQuest edition

Charlene O’Kane, Order Comms Facilitator responds to your tQuest feedback. (comms taken from Pathology Survey ‘25)

“Despite using user specific tQuest forms, the result is going to the GP Partner.”

tQuest and the laboratory system are configured to send reports back to the requester selected in tQuest. If results are not being sent to the appropriate GP inbox, please check the **‘Inbound User Matches’** section within Results Configuration in EMIS Web. From here, you can reconfigure EMIS to ensure reports are directed to the correct inbox.

“tQuest is slow” About three years ago we did see a major issue with the slowness of tQuest. Thankfully, this issue has since been resolved. If you are experiencing slowness, please contact your local IT support in the first instance as it may be a network or hardware issue. If you are experiencing significant issues with tQuest slowness, please contact us.

“Useful if we could copy-to-me radiology reports” Unfortunately tQuest does not have access to radiology reports, the radiology department is separate to CWPS.

Any concerns or worries about tQuest and requesting receiving pathology results, please reach out. We are here to help you Charlene.OKane@uhcw.nhs.uk and Gregory.Tindall@uhcw.nhs.uk