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Questions or comments?

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Eastern Pathology Alliance



If you have any requests for topics you'd like to see in future newsletters, please let us know...

www.easternpathologyalliance.nhs.uk

EPA LAB NEWS

EPA WEBSITE...

Did you know that Eastern Pathology Alliance has a website?

www.easternpathologyalliance.nhs.uk

A wealth of information is available for you, including, but not limited to:-

- Turnaround times
- Tube requirements
- Reference intervals

There are also user manuals for each of our departments where you can view information such as:-

- How to package and transport samples
- How to request tests
- Information about referred tests
- How to request Add-on tests
- Information about results and guidance
- Useful leaflets
- Opening hours and locations
- Info on careers & training within EPA
- How to raise a complaint or compliment
- Frequently asked questions



Newsletter Spotlight

Nigel Roberts

FIT KITS

We are delighted to report that, from the week commencing 6/3/23, we have an out-sourced supply of FIT kits and can now supply 30 per request.

Please order these as necessary, and try to avoid stock-piling.

Please be aware - the tubes do expire, and expired samples will be rejected

FEEDBACK FROM THE 2022 EPA USER SURVEY

We wish to thank everyone who took the time to complete the 2022 User survey. Although we only received 41 responses, a very small number considering the number of users of our services, the responses we received have been useful for helping us to assess our current services and to plan improvements.

Overall our services scored well for service provision and for the quality of clinical advice provided. No significant service issues were highlighted, however, there were a number of useful comments that will help us focus on areas where improvements can be made. Where the comments did not relate specifically to EPA services, we have sent this information to the managers in relevant departments for them to use for their own service improvements.

It was disappointing to find out that 75% of the respondents were not aware of the new EPA website so we are hoping the article in this newsletter will explain more about the site so you can make use of this resource in the future. We have also used the website to provide a more detailed report of the user survey.

Further details of the survey results and our plans to address the comments raised will shortly be available on our website: <https://www.easternpathologyalliance.nhs.uk>

Although the response to our survey was low, hopefully we have been able to demonstrate that we value your opinions and we will work with you to make improvements to the EPA services.

Diane Murley
EPA Network Quality Manager

URINE DIPSTICK TESTING FOR UTI

The "gold standard" for the diagnosis of urinary tract infection (UTI) is culture, which requires 18-24 hours before a result is available.

Microscopy or dipstick testing often provides preliminary information in appropriate patient groups, e.g. Dipstick testing is not suitable for catheterised patients or those >65 yrs old.

Further information can be found at:

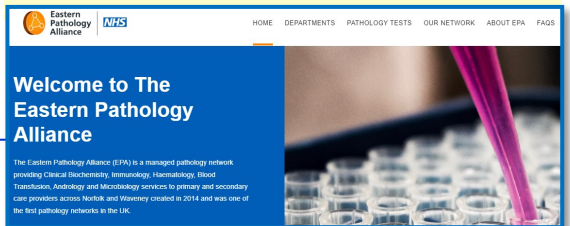
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/conditions-and-diseases/urological-conditions/urinarytract-infection>



STOP &
CHECK!

Every year thousands of samples are rejected due to inaccuracies with paperwork and specimen labelling, costing the NHS time, money and most importantly, delaying patient care. When sending samples please ensure that *all* the following points of identification are clearly included on specimen and paperwork:

FORENAME: DATE OF BIRTH:
 SURNAME: HOSPITAL or NHS NUMBER:



A FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM MICROBIOLOGY

There has been an increase in samples being sent to the wrong laboratories which could cause a delay in results. Each laboratory is at a different location so samples delivered to the incorrect laboratory could potentially be delayed overnight. Please be aware that not all blood samples go to blood sciences and not all Urine and Faeces samples go to Microbiology. Please look at the forms not the specimen type to check which bag your samples should go into.



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Specimen Collection Instructions
1 x MRSA SWAB, 0/0
4x SWAB IN TRANSPORT MEDIUM

Affix Specimen Bag Here

Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital NHS Trust
MICROBIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Hospital No. & Name: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
SEX: Male NHS NO. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
Location: Acute Medical Unit (AMU)
Consultant: ESMAIL, Sanad (C7285364)
Specimen Type: MRSA ADMISSION SCREENING EMERGENCY (e.g. Site=Nose/Groin)
Collect Date/Time: 01 Feb 2023 20:31 Category: 1-NHS Copy To: ()
NOTE: Please state the collect date or time here and on the labels when sample collected.
Collect Date: Collect Time: Sample taken by: [REDACTED]

Printed by user: LAFV on 01 Feb 2023 20:31
URGENT REQUEST - STAT

Hospital No. & Name: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
SEX: Male NHS NO. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
Location: Acute Medical Unit (AMU)
Consultant: ESMAIL, Sanad (C7285364)
Specimen Type: MRSA ADMISSION SCREENING EMERGENCY (e.g. Site=Nose/Groin)
Collect Date/Time: 01 Feb 2023 20:31 Category: 1-NHS Copy To: ()
NOTE: Please state the collect date or time here and on the labels when sample collected.
Collect Date: Collect Time: Sample taken by: [REDACTED]

PLEASE BLEEP OR TELEPHONE THIS NO. WITH RESULTS: 3539 RM100151734661

<http://icedesktop.nmuh.nhs.uk/icedesktop/dotnet/icedesktop/PrintManager/PrintMain.aspx>

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Affix Specimen Bag Here

Random urine tests

Printed by user: CY3 on 22 Feb 2023 14:41
NORFOLK & NORWICH UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL NHS TRUST
BLOOD SCIENCES ELECTRONIC REQUEST

Hospital No. & Name: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
SEX: Female NHS NO. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
Location: Rheumatology
Consultant: YONG, C (C7015970)
Clinical Details: SLE, pre clinic
Test Item: UPCR (v)
Category: 1-NHS
Collect Date/Time: [REDACTED]

PLEASE BLEEP OR TEL THIS NO. WITH RESULTS: 4676 RM10047398619

SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
For these investigations you require the following samples:
1 x White top (universal)
NOTE: Please state the collect date or time here and on the labels when sample collected.
Collect Date: Collect Time: [REDACTED]
Sample taken by: [REDACTED]

DO NOT PRINT MULTIPLE COPIES OR PHOTOCOPIY THIS FORM

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Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital NHS Trust
Norfolk & Waveney Cellular Pathology
Histopathology

Affix Specimen Bag Here

Result Requested:
Requested by: George
Request No: 496214664
Date/Time Collected: 04 Feb 2023 12:00:00
Date/Time Received: [REDACTED]

Consultant/CP: GEORGE, Dr A (0407) (GEORGIA/S)
Location/Specimen: 080111 Trench & Rowles Med (08011)
Category: 1-NHS RM100151764256 Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Request
1. 2 flat tags (over chest around the midline) 111
2. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 112
3. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 113
4. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 114
5. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 115
6. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 116
7. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 117
8. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 118
9. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 119
10. 1 flat tag (over chest around the midline) 120

Clinical History: Ectopic Erosion of 2 skin tags in the lower chest around the midline
Lab use only: [REDACTED]

Pathology Request: [REDACTED]

Request Response: [REDACTED]

Printed by user: LAFV on 04 Feb 2023 12:00
<http://icedesktop.nmuh.nhs.uk/icedesktop/dotnet/icedesktop/PrintManager/PrintMain.aspx>

Microbiology = Blue Bag

Blood sciences = Green Bag

Histopathology = Red Bag

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Eastern Pathology Alliance **NHS**

www.easternpathologyalliance.nhs.uk