

**Department of Clinical Biochemistry**  
Core Clinical Services Directorate

Our Ref: BS/CB/QM/COMU/131

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Dear Colleague

**Re: Biochemistry update**

**Lucozade formula is changing from the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017 and is no longer suitable for use in the oral glucose tolerance test.**

As many of you may have heard Lucozade is changing its formula so that it will contain 50% less glucose. As a result it will require 950mls to deliver the 75g of glucose required for the oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT). This is too large a volume to ask a patient to take quickly and ultimately is not validated for this use. Therefore all practitioners should stop using all Lucozade products in glucose tolerance tests from April 2017 onwards.

In an OGTT we recommend using Polycal but RapiLOSE® OGTT Solution is another option. Both of these products can be prescribed but Polycal is the more cost effective option. We have updated our local guidance to reflect this and these can be found at:

<https://www.nbt.nhs.uk/severn-pathology/pathology-services/clinical-biochemistry/clinical-biochemistry-clinicians/clinical-0>

It is worth noting that during hypoglycaemia Lucozade may not contain enough glucose to appropriately treat the episode and patients should be warned of this and given suitable alternatives.

Yours sincerely



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**SpR Metabolic Medicine and Biochemistry**  
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