

Issue 3: June 2017

Welcome to the Severn Pathology Newsletter

Transfusion results on ICE



Transfusion results along with sample suitability can be viewed on ICE. There is also a section with the transfusion results which tells the user if there is blood available and which fridge this is located in.

PRODUCT ISSUE SUMMARY

Ward Unit Summary

Number	Product	Group	Expiry	Compatibility	Status
G0525172961727 07/06/17	RC	APOS	15/06/17	ELECTRONIC XM	ISSUED (V)
G0735171404097 07/06/17	RC	APOS	15/06/17	ELECTRONIC XM	ISSUED (V)
G073517148105M 07/06/17	RC	APOS	15/06/17	ELECTRONIC XM	ISSUED (V)
G073517153655A 07/06/17	RC	APOS	19/06/17	ELECTRONIC XM	ISSUED (V)

Ward Issue Summary

:
4 units of REDCELL ready for collection at SMD New build level 2

The transfusion laboratory has seen a rise in the number of telephone calls from the clinical areas. This is having a significant impact on the laboratory and may result in a delay in processing samples. **Please check on ICE before phoning the laboratory.**

Rejected Transfusion samples

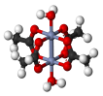
Rejected transfusion samples will no longer be rung through to the clinical areas unless there is a crossmatch request associated with the sample with some critical exceptions. The samples which are rejected for all other group and hold requests or antenatal requests will be reported in the usual manner and a new sample will need to be sent. This change has been effective from April 20th 2017.

Transfusion Request Form

The blood transfusion request form was updated last year and was introduced during September 2016. Since this time clinical areas have been requested to dispose of old versions and replace with the new version attached (order number 45100 - RVJBTA).

From 31st July 2017, the old versions of the blood transfusion request forms will no longer be accepted.

The sample will not be rejected but will not be processed until a new version of the request form has been received from the clinical area. Please can you ensure that all old versions have been replaced with new version ASAP to avoid any delay in results or blood provision.



D-dimer results – change in method of notification of results

Historically the North Bristol NHS Trust (NBT) laboratories telephoned positive out-patient and general practice D-dimer results. From Monday 3rd July 2017 we will cease phoning D-dimer results. This change will bring NBT into alignment with other laboratories in the region.

Rationale:

- Consistent with Royal College of Pathologists guidance in “The communication of critical and unexpected pathology results” (July 2016).
- The main indication for a D-dimer test is to help exclude the presence of a thrombosis where there is a low clinical probability of a DVT/PE, rather than rule it in.
- The D-dimer assay is non-specific and produces a large number of false positive results.



Butterfly supplies

Pathology now have a limited supplies of 23g Butterfly for blood collection available. We will not be fulfilling any orders received for this product but will manage the small supplies we have by issuing a small stock to each ward area/surgery. We hope that this stock, used appropriately, should last for 1 month. We should have further stocks by then to allow a regular resupply at this level.

In assisting us to manage this product appropriately the following may help:

There is currently plenty of stock for standard venepuncture kit using the normal straight needles. These should always be the first option and choice.

The butterfly needle is the last option for patients who are unable to be bled. The only butterflies that should currently be ordered for blood collection is the ultratouch push button 23g, the other winged butterflies are not for sample collection. These are also significantly more expensive than the standard kit so really should be used only when absolutely necessary. Please can you ensure that all staff knows to use the standard kit first?

Sample transportation via air-tube system

The following samples must **NOT** be sent via the air-tube

- Risk of VHF
- High likelihood of Mtb.
- Risk of CJD/BSE/prion
- Individual sample liquid volume of greater than 50ml
- Combined sample volume of greater 100ml
- Contain formaldehyde – with the exception of specialist neuropathology samples.

Individual samples **must be in sealed** in appropriately coloured specimen bag. Samples for separate pathology departments must not be placed in the same specimen bag, failure to separate samples appropriately at collection will cause unnecessary delay in the laboratory. **Please ensure that urine/fluid containers are securely closed and sealed in specimen bags**

- Blood sciences - Red
- Infection Sciences - Blue
- Histology - Yellow
- Cytology - White or white/purple
- Genetics - Clear

Pathology Sample Labelling

Place label
directly under
cap

Name & number
at top

Barcode straight



Leave visible
window so
we can see
blood volume

Remember Get it straight—reduce the wait

Do not use faded or partially printed barcodes.



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