

Dear Colleague

You will have no doubt been keeping an eye on developments regarding the Becton Dickinson blood collection supply disruption. NHSE has updated all clinicians yesterday ([link to document](#)) with specific advice for Primary and Community Care.

This will understandably be a very frustrating time for all clinicians (and patients), who are working round the clock dealing with the backlog of chronic disease reviews in addition to any acute clinical commitments.

The LMC is continuing to lobby locally and nationally for assurances around QOF indicators and enhanced services, and has highlighted the current limitations that practices have in undertaking tests requested by secondary care due to these shortages. The NHSE update clarifies examples of clinically urgent testing –

- Bloods that are required to facilitate a two week wait referral
- Bloods that are extremely overdue and/or essential for safe prescribing of medication or monitoring of condition
- Bloods that if taken could avoid a hospital admission or prevent an onward referral
- Those with suspected sepsis or conditions with a risk of death or disability

NHSE has also stated that there are no current plans to change QOF payment arrangements, but has assured GPs that this will be kept under review.

NHSE and NHS Improvement have confirmed with NHS Resolution that ‘any clinical negligence claims which may arise from the above will be captured in the usual way by the respective state indemnity schemes including CNSGP’.

Please contact the LMC office if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,
The LMC Team

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