

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Updated Guidance for the Histopathology Andrology Unit at Seacroft Hospital Leeds

Dear User

This is to inform you that the Histopathology Andrology Unit at Seacroft Hospital aims to be fully open by the end of August for Diagnostic Semen Analysis and Post Vasectomy Semen Analysis. However, after discussions with Infection Prevention Control we anticipate only being able to deal with a quarter of the patients we would normally see in any one day due to distancing and extra cleaning measures.

In addition, we are prioritising patients who were cancelled at the start of the pandemic therefore new referrals will have a substantial wait time for an appointment. We suggest newly referred patients do not contact the department until 1st September 2020 at the earliest to arrange their appointment as there will be no new appointments slots available until then.

At present, all patients will be required to produce their sample off-site and deliver it to the department within 30 mins of production (2 hours if the sample is from a patient requiring post vasectomy semen analysis and it is their first sample), but this may change in the future. We will advise the patient when they contact the department to arrange their appointment.

Please note that if on-site sample production facilities reopen, they will not be suitable for those who are immuno-compromised. These patients must always produce their sample off-site. Please ensure you advise this patient group of this information. **It is your responsibility to make that decision when referring the patient.** The reason for this is because we do not have access to patient's medical records nor do we have medically qualified staff in the department to provide advice or make informed decisions regarding such matters. Consequently, we are unable to triage these patients.

In addition we will **NOT** be accepting samples from patients who:

1. Have been diagnosed with Covid-19
2. Has a partner or member of their household who has been diagnosed with Covid 19
3. Have had any of the following symptoms in the last 2 weeks (or their partner or member of their household has had any of the following:
  1. Fever (feeling hot or a temperature above 37.5°C)
  2. Persistent cough
  3. Loss of sense of smell
  4. Loss of sense of taste
  5. Sore throat
4. Have been in contact with anyone in the last 2 weeks who has any of the above symptoms or has been diagnosed with Covid 19

Attached are 2 updated patient information leaflets with important Covid related information that must be given to all patients requiring semen analysis prior to them arranging their appointment. Updated information can also be found on Leeds Health Pathways.

Please destroy any patient information leaflets produced prior to the Covid Pandemic.

If you require further information, please contact

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