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ISO15189:2012

Cellular Pathology Handbook 2023

CELLULAR PATHOLOGY HANDBOOK 2022

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POSTAL ADDRESS:

Cellular Pathology Department,
 Wycombe Hospital,
 Queen Alexandra Road,
 High Wycombe,
 Buckinghamshire. HP11 2TT

LABORATORY HOURS:

Cellular Pathology	Monday – Friday	8.30 am - 5 pm
Reception	Monday – Friday	8.45 am - 5 pm
Supplies	Monday – Friday	8.45 am - 12.15 pm



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CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Office/enquiries <i>Results for surgical and cytology specimens Laboratory</i>	5243/ 5386
Supplies	Maggie Dean	5248
Management	Gail Bell Laboratory Manager/Head Biomedical Scientist	6054
	Anna Clarke Lead Biomedical Scientist	6056
CSPL	Melissa Ellis Cervical Screening Programme Lead	5107
Cytology	Diagnostic cytology and Andrology services	6405
Andrology	Andrology Semen Fertility/Post Vasectomy Kits Requests emailed to bht.andrology@nhs.net	6405
Histology	Main Lab <i>technical advice on the handling and /or submission of a specimen</i>	5106
Mortuary	Helen Bewley Mortuary Manager	5381

CONTACT INFORMATION - Medical advice on requests or results

Pathology Consultants	Dr M H Tsui	manhing.tsui@nhs.net	5382
	Dr N Mungalsingh	narendra.mungalsingh@nhs.net	5104
	Dr S Corrigan	steven.corrigan@nhs.net	5202
	Dr L Kankate	laxmi.kankate@nhs.net	5790
	Dr P Johnson	peterjohnson4@nhs.net	2129
	Dr G Wathuge	gayathri.wathuge@nhs.net	5340
	Dr Y Alizadeh	y.alizadeh@nhs.net	5673
	Dr M Mayers	mavis.mayers@nhs.net	5790
	Dr S Ghutara	sukhvinder.ghataura@nhs.net	5508
	Dr P Brown		
	Dr K Ghosh	kanchan.ghosh1@nhs.net	

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REQUESTING TESTS

Please ensure that all samples and request forms are labelled with the minimum datasets listed below and ensure the information is clearly legible; note that the laboratory prefers requests for tests to be requested via the ICE forms.

Please Note Requesting via the electronic “ICE” system is preferred as this reduces transcription errors and ensures that the report is sent to the correct clinician.

Request form must be labelled with

- surname,
- forename,
- date of birth,
- hospital number and/or NHS number
- sender details (this must include as a minimum the Consultant and Sender location).

Please ensure that these details are clearly displayed. If insufficient information is given the laboratory will not be able to ensure that the result is delivered to the correct clinician or location. Severe errors in labelling will result in the laboratory contacting the clinical team for clarification and a DATIX being issued if necessary.

Specimen label must include surname, forename and either date of birth or NHS number /hospital number. It must also include the specimen description and its location, eg. Lesion left or right hand .

Proper patient identification is required for a sample to be processed.

Results

All pathology results are accessible via ICE, this includes those requested on handwritten forms.

SPECIMEN TRANSPORT

- The hospitals provide a collection service to GP practices via the hospital transport service.
- There are also regular specimen transport runs between Wycombe and Stoke Mandeville on week days.
- Specimens from within the hospital are collected by the portering service.

Specimens sent away to referral laboratories for further testing or second opinion are sent via the postal system or courier using the appropriate regulation packaging system.

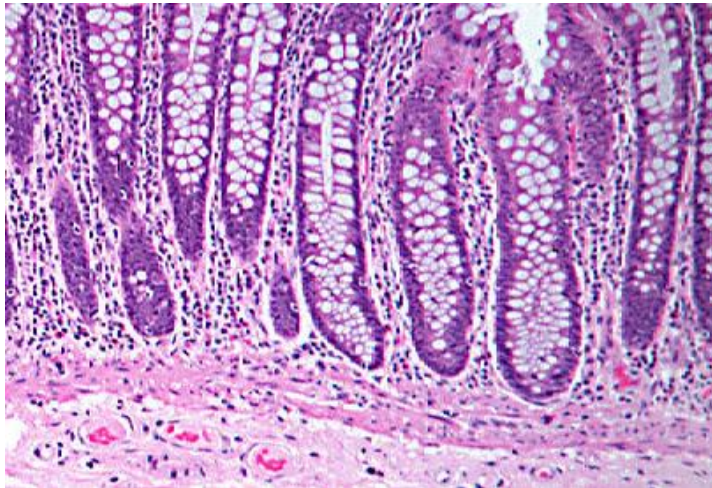
Samples may be referred to individuals at the discretion of the reporting Pathologist, who are nationally/internationally recognised as experts in their field of speciality.

Additional examinations will be requested at the discretion of the reporting pathologist.

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Please note: cervical cytology specimens are still collected by BHT transport from GP surgeries but these are not processed or reported by BHT. For any queries please refer to the cytology laboratory at Ashford & St. Peters Hospital, Chertsey.

HISTOLOGY SERVICE



Laboratory Operating hours/On-call service:

- The laboratory is open between the hours of 8.30 am – 5 pm
- The laboratory operates Monday to Friday during these hours
- There is no on call service available for Cellular Pathology
- In the event of an emergency outside operating hours, the Consultants or the Head/Lead BMS can be contacted at home via the hospital switchboard.

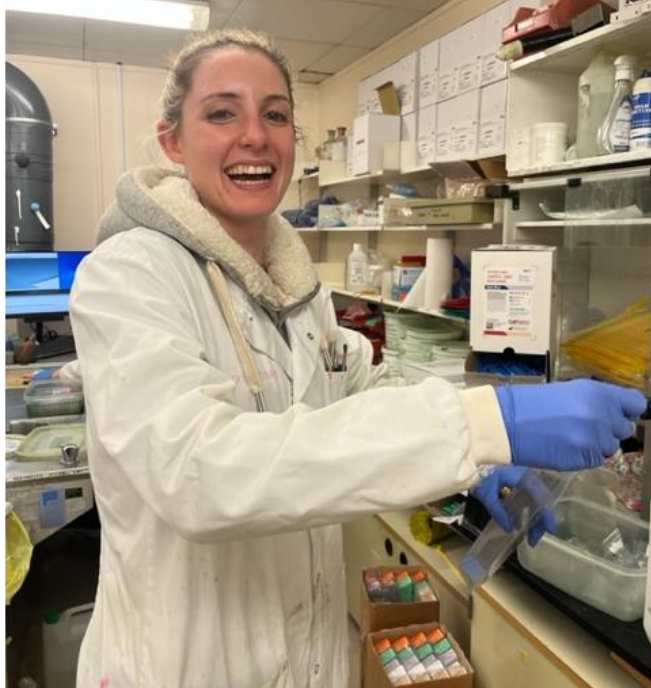
Target Turnaround Times for Histology:

- 80% of all requests to be reported within 12 working days of procedure date.
- 80% of all Priority cases to be reported within 12 working days of procedure date.
- 90% of urgent samples to be reported within 5 working days of procedure date.

Surgical Histology Specimens:

- These should be submitted in Formalin Fixative in a container large enough to hold the specimen and allow sufficient formalin to immerse the specimen.
- Pots and buckets are supplied by the laboratory unless there is a specific reason for doing otherwise, please contact supplies if extra stock is required.
- All specimens must be properly labelled and accompanied by a request form which is accurate and contains all relevant information; otherwise the processing of the specimen will be delayed.
- **High Risk samples should be marked accordingly.**

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Health & Safety

Formalin is a suspected carcinogen, it is irritating to the eyes, respiratory system and skin. and the containers should only be opened in well ventilated areas.

- Do not breathe fumes.
- Wear appropriate PPE.
- Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- Eye contact – irrigate thoroughly with water for at least 10 minutes
- Skin contact – wash skin thoroughly with water, and remove any contaminated clothing.
- Ingestion – wash out mouth thoroughly with water and give plenty of water to drink.
- Obtain Medical Attention.

In case of a small spillage, evacuate area, clear up the spillage, wash site of spillage thoroughly with water and detergent and dispose of contaminated waste in sealed clinical waste bags.

Large spillages require trained personnel. Call laboratory for advice if required and evacuate area.

Urgent Histology Specimens:

- These will be processed and reported in advance of the routine, priority and 2WW work.
- Please only label cases as urgent if they need to be reported urgently. If too many cases are labelled as urgent this will result in delays as there is limited daily reporting capability.

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Priority and two week wait (2WW) cases

- Two week wait cases should be clearly marked as such and the date the sample was taken in the 62 day pathway.
- These and Priority cases are processed and reported in advance of routine histology samples.
- Other cases may also be designated as priority by the Histopathologist staff

Retaining Tissue

- Any remaining Histology tissue is kept for 28 days after authorisation of the report
- The blocks made from the tissue are kept for 30 years in accordance with RCPATH guidelines
- Any tissue blocks and slides referred for specialist testing and/or second opinion to another specialist in the relevant field is at the discretion of the reporting Histopathologist

TISSUES AND ORGANS NEEDING SPECIAL TREATMENT OR HANDLING

Muscle Biopsies:

All patients who require a muscle biopsy should be referred to the John Radcliffe Hospital for investigation. A patient may be booked in to one of the muscle clinics held monthly by contacting 01865 231906.

Frozen Sections:

- These must be booked with the Wycombe Hospital Histology Lab at least 24 hours in advance by telephoning the laboratory.
- The request form must have a contact number for the result to be given.
- We cannot perform frozen sections on tissue from patients with known tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, CJD or HIV or COVID 19 positive.
- The sample should be submitted in a dry sterile container with NO formalin, and sent to the laboratory at Wycombe Hospital as soon as possible.
- **Please note: Frozen sections are not available at SMH hospital**
- Surgery being performed at SMH which requires a frozen section can be couriered to the lab at Wycombe for analysis at the discretion of the operating clinician and reporting consultant pathologist.

Skin biopsies for autoimmune disease:

- Examination of unfixed fresh tissue by immunofluorescence techniques may assist diagnosis in certain skin conditions.

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- These must be submitted in Michel's transport medium.
- We cannot examine tissue from patients with known tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, CJD, HIV or COVID 19.
- These samples are referred to Oxford University Hospitals for processing and reporting

Specimens requiring cytogenetics:

- These should be transported FRESH to the Churchill Hospital Oxford directly from the department they are from. Please ensure all the correct paperwork is sent with the samples, please note: these samples do not come to Cellular Pathology

OSNA cases

- All OSNA samples MUST be received on ice and brought directly to the department immediately from surgery. The laboratory should be informed of the imminent arrival of the sample.

OSNA cases from Private Theatres:

- These **MUST** be booked in advance with the Histology laboratory so that the equipment can be ready and staff available.

CLINICO-PATHOLOGICAL MEETINGS

Pathologists show cases of interest at clinical meetings. Preparation of cases can be time-consuming so please let us know the cases required **at least 3 days before the meeting**.

POST MORTEMS

- All Post Mortems are performed at SMH.
- These may be hospital generated post mortems or Coroner's post mortems.
- In cases of tuberculosis, Hepatitis B or other hepatitis infections, HIV, COVID-19 or Creutzfeld-Jacob disease, the consultant Pathologist will use their discretion as to whether a post mortem-examination can be performed on site.
- Known High risk cases may be referred to St. Thomas' Hospital, London or another designated hospital
- Perinatal and paediatric deaths are referred to the Paediatric Dept at the John Radcliffed Hospital, Oxford.

Hospital Post mortems

- These require written permission from the next of kin.

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- This is usually obtained in collaboration with the Bereavement Officers, contactable on ext 01296 316646 at SMH or 01494 425233 at WH.
- A senior doctor should see the relatives and obtain consent and this should not be delegated.
- If no relative can be traced, refer to the relevant General Manager/Director of Operations.

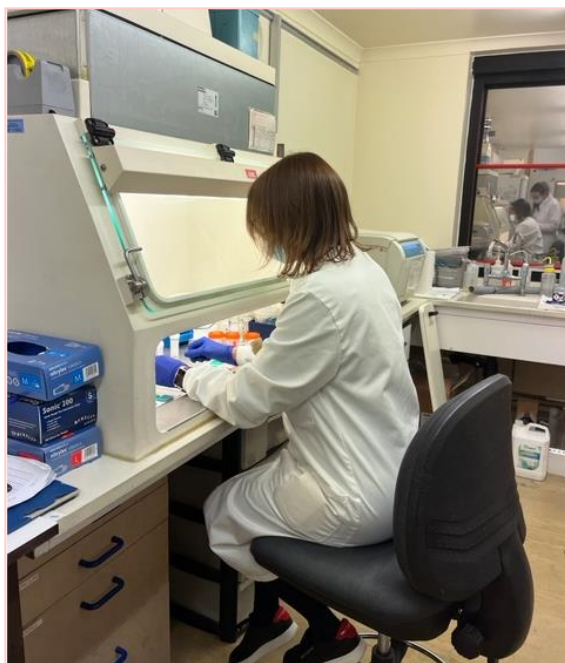
Coroner's Post mortems

- These are ordered by the Coroner and do not require the permission of the next of kin.
- Deaths can be reported to the Coroner by contacting the relevant Coroner's Office at Beaconsfield Office on direct line 01494 475505 during office hours Monday to Friday.
- During the weekend or bank holidays for emergency deaths only call the Thames Valley Police on 08458 505505.
- At SMH in the first instance please contact the Bereavement Office on 01296 316646.

In case of doubt the Coroner or one of his/her officers will always be willing to give advice should there be any question of referral.

A doctor from the medical team should make every effort to attend hospital or Coroner's post mortems on their cases. This can be arranged either by contacting the Pathologist or via the mortuary office on ext 01296 315381 for Stoke Mandeville mortuary.

CYTOLOGY SERVICES



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Laboratory Operating hours/On-call service:

- The laboratory is open between the hours of 8.00 am – 5pm
- The laboratory operates Monday to Friday during these hours
- There is no on call service available for Cytology
- In the event of an emergency outside operating hours, the Consultants or the Head/Lead BMS can be contacted outside hours by contacting switchboard.

Target Turnaround Times for Diagnostic Cytology:

- 80% of Diagnostic cytology request to be reported within 5 working days of procedure.

Requesting tests:

- Non-gynaecological/diagnostic cytology requests should be made via ICE electronically and the form printed and sent with the sample (preferred method) or if ICE is unavailable via Diagnostic Cytology request forms and transported to the laboratory in the sample bag. If sending manual forms please ensure information is legible and the consultant and location are completed.
- The laboratory does not accept responsibility for the delivery of results if the Clinical consultant or patient location is not clearly marked on the request form
- **Please note** ICE requesting is preferred as this reduces errors and ensures the result is delivered to the correct location and clinician.
- All results are available via the ICE system, including those requested manually.

Specimen identification

All specimens must be fully labelled and accompanied by a request form containing all the relevant information; otherwise the processing of the specimen will be delayed.

Labelling criteria:

The sample and request form should be clearly labelled with the patient's details and sample description, including location, eg. Synovial fluid - Left or right knee

- surname,
- forename
- date of birth
- NHS number,
- Date and time specimen was taken,
- consultant/clinicians name and code
- Location of patient Wycombe/SMH ward/dept and location code
- relevant clinical details on the request form.

If preparing glass slides these should be labelled with three identifiers in **pencil** NOT in ink or with paper labels, as these are erased during sample preparation.

If an urgent result is required indicate this clearly on the request form.

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Please refrigerate all fluid samples if there is a delay in transport.

Diagnostic/Non Gynaecological samples and requests NOT matching Acceptance criteria:

For internal hospital samples:

- The requester will be contacted to come to the laboratory to resolve the problem.
- Where this is not possible but the clinician is confident that the sample and form are correct, but has been mislabelled at clinic this should be discussed with the reporting Pathologist and acceptance of the sample will be at their discretion. The report will include a caveat that patient identity cannot be guaranteed. A DATIX will be created in this instance and a note placed on the report.
- Should the sample be easily repeatable, eg. Urine or sputa these will be rejected and the clinician informed of this.

For external specimens:

- Should the sample be easily repeatable, eg. Urine or sputa this will be rejected and the GP informed of this.
- If an urgent result is required indicate this clearly on the request form.
- Please refrigerate all fluid samples if there is a delay in transport.

CYTOLOGY SAMPLE TYPES

Breast and other Cyst Fluids

Place specimen into dry 30ml universal containers and label.

Respiratory specimens

Sputa

Place fluid into a dry 30 ml universal containers and label.

Bronchial Washings/Lavages

Place fluid into a dry 30 ml universal container and label.

Bronchial Brushings

- Send the bronchial brush to the laboratory in a sample pot containing saline solution.
- Or send the bronchial brush to the laboratory in a formalin filled sample pot
- Or spread material directly onto fully labelled glass slides, fix in alcohol for at least 10 minutes or spray fix. Send in a plastic, lidded fully labelled slide carrier.

Lung FNA's

- Prepare spreads onto fully labelled slides and air dry.

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- Or alcohol fixed samples are also acceptable as long as they are clearly labelled “fixed”.
- And/or The needle contents can be put in saline in a labelled specimen pot.

EBUS samples

- Needle contents should be put in saline in labelled pots.
- Transported to laboratory in dedicated yellow boxes.
- Please note when using the yellow EBUS boxes ensure the location flap reflects the delivery location, Endoscopy or Cellular Pathology

Serous Effusions

- Place between **25ml – 50ml** fluid into dry 30 ml universal containers or dry specimen sample pots and label.
- If the fluid is collected into a drainage collection bag mix thoroughly before sending the aliquot.

CSFs

- Please send in dry 30 ml universal containers and label. **The specimen should reach the lab as soon as possible.**

Fine Needle Aspirates –Breast, Thyroid, salivary etc.

- FNAs should be spread directly onto labelled glass slides and air dried rapidly.
- Please ensure that the sample is spread thinly on the slide as this will aid diagnosis
- The needle can be washed in saline and washings sent to the laboratory with the prepared slides.
- If you send an alcohol fixed slide to the department please mark this clearly in pencil on the slide.

NB: it is not acceptable to label the slide carrier (plastic box) without labelling the slides individually in pencil.

Urines

- Urines should **NOT** be early morning or midstream specimens.
- Add approximately 50ml of fresh urine to a dry specimen sample pot, clearly labelled with the patient’s name and date of birth.

Synovial fluids

- Synovial fluids should be sent to the lab in a clean labelled universal or dry specimen sample pot.
- Clearly indicate if crystal analysis is required.

Other specimens not detailed above

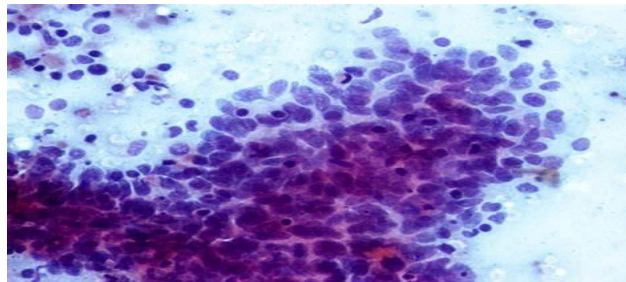
Any other specimens requiring cytology assessment should be sent to the laboratory either in a clean dry universal/dry specimen sample pot or spread onto glass slides and air dried rapidly.

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REMEMBER: ALL SPECIMENS AND SLIDES SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE PATIENT'S NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH.

Diagnostic Cytology specimens are retained in the laboratory for 5 working days only, unless unreported.

All samples/specimens should be sent as soon as possible to the Pathology Laboratory.



ANDROLOGY SERVICES

Semen Fertility Analysis referrals & appointment process

The Andrology team, based in our ISO 15189:2012 accredited Cellular Pathology laboratory at Wycombe Hospital, process semen samples for fertility testing as part of Reproductive Science investigations for patients in the Buckinghamshire region. We also hold a Monday morning clinic based within the Pathology Building at Stoke Mandeville for patients that cannot travel under an hour to our Wycombe clinic.

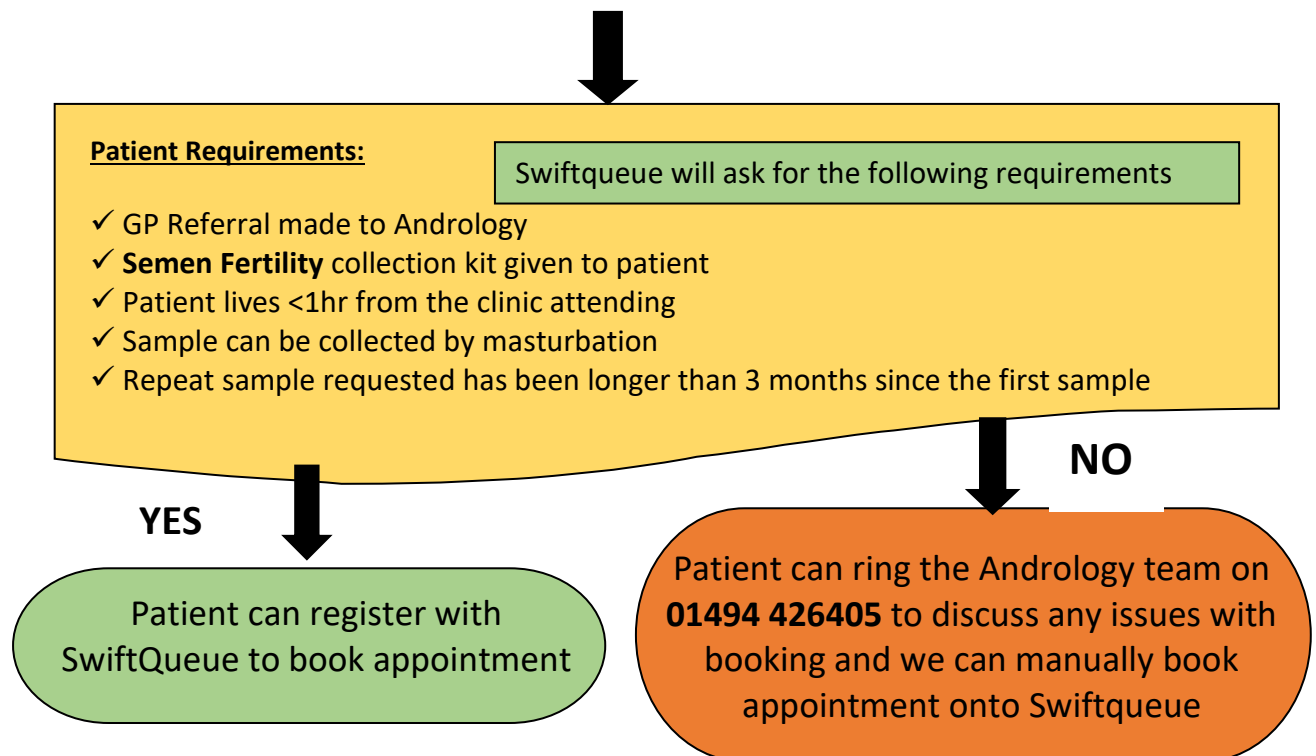
Please note that although this Stoke clinic is not ISO 15189:2012 accredited, it is carried out by the same fully competent Andrology staff that are based at Wycombe who follow internal quality assurance standards.

- GP makes a referral on ICE or Email bht.andrology@nhs.net
- Patient given a **semen fertility** collection kit
- Patient informed by GP/Clinician to make appointment online

www.swiftqueue.co.uk/buckinghamshire-andrology.php



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Post Vasectomy Lab Analysis (PVSA) referrals & appointment process

If a patient has had their post vasectomy carried out by **Thames Valley Vasectomy Services (TVVS)**, they will be advised by TVVS to book their appointment on a Thursday or Friday morning at the Cellular Pathology department, Wycombe Hospital online via **SWIFTQUEUE**.

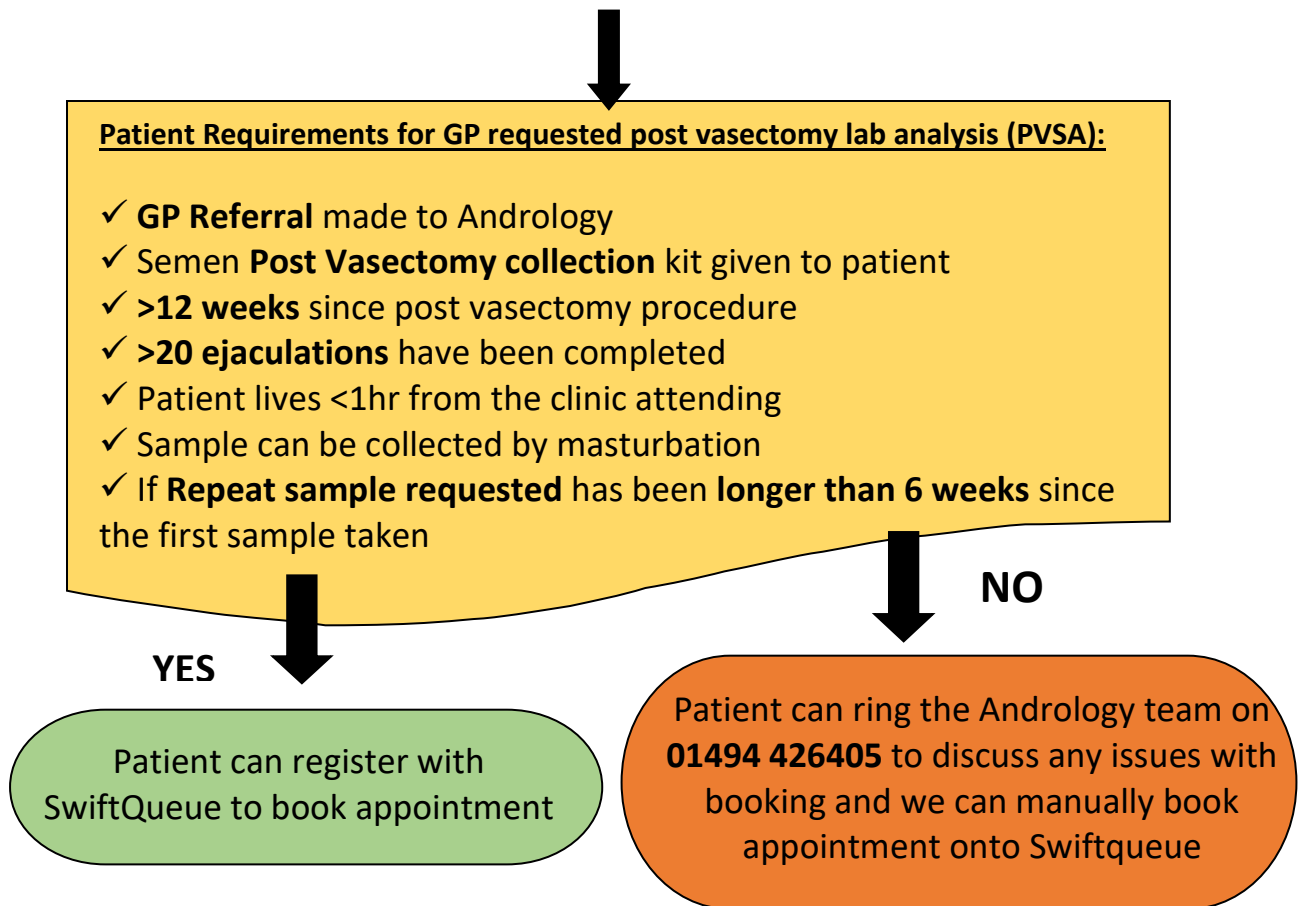
For all other NHS/Private PVSA referrals from GP/clinicians please follow below:

- GP makes a referral on ICE or Email bht.andrology@nhs.net
- Patient given a semen **POST VASECTOMY** collection kit
- Patient informed by GP/Clinician to make appointment online

www.swiftqueue.co.uk/buckinghamshire-andrology.php



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Semen Fertility and Post Vasectomy (PVSA) laboratory analysis

Clinic Times

Availability of these appointment times may be adjusted slightly due to staffing/workload/urgency and will be reflected online for patients on the Swiftqueue booking page.

Stoke Mandeville Hospital – Pathology Building	Semen Fertility clinic	Monday mornings only Between 09:00am – 10:30am
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Wycombe Hospital – Cellular Pathology	Semen Fertility clinic	Tuesday mornings Between 08:30am – 10:30am
		Wednesday mornings Between 08:30am – 10:30am
Wycombe Hospital – Cellular Pathology	Post Vasectomy laboratory investigations (PVSA) clinic	Thursday mornings Between 08:30am – 09:30am
		Friday mornings Between 08:30am – 09:30am

***GOPD clinicians should advise patients to ring Andrology directly to book an urgent slot at one of our clinics.**

****Appointments should be selected by the patient to the nearest clinic site to ensure the sample **is processed within an hour of production**.** On occasion we will accept fertility samples on PVSA clinic days and the same for PVSA samples on fertility clinic days. This will be dependent on staffing, how far the patient is travelling to clinic. If patients do not meet the set requirements to book online should call the Andrology team directly.

Final note: A BOOKED APPOINTMENT IS ESSENTIAL. Patients arriving with samples without an appointment or turning up outside of clinic times, may have their samples rejected. Patients that have booked an appointment without a GP referral, may be told to return to their GP to request a referral before we will accept a sample for analysis.

Confidentiality

Confidential information about service users and patients are treated confidentially and with respect in accordance with GDPR regulations and the DATA Protection Act [Data Protection Act 2018 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/52/section/1). All laboratory premises are secure and all computer systems are password protected as per the Trust's guidelines and Caldicott principles. Accuracy of data is audited by random sampling of records by our Quality Management programme. Confidential waste is disposed of securely and respectfully.

Feedback, Compliments and Complaints:

Any complaints should be directed to the Clinical or Laboratory Managers (contact details page 2 of this handbook) - please make any reservations you may have about the quality of any aspect of the service known to us as soon as possible: we take your complaints very

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seriously. Laboratory management will investigate your concerns in accordance with Trust policies. Your views are important to us as we strive to improve the service we provide.

You can also contact using the Trust's procedures:

email your complaint to pals@buckshealthcare.nhs.uk or telephone the complaints team on 01494 734958 to help resolve problems or concerns when users been unable to do so with the staff in that department.



If any changes are made to this document, a revised copy must be sent to the Pathology Manager, who will then instigate revised copies in ICE, Bucks NHS Intranet and Internet.

LABORATORY TESTS and ACCREDITATION STATUS

The table below details the tests that are carried out on samples sent to Cellular Pathology. Which tests are undertaken is determined by the Pathologist to aid diagnosis and may or may not appear on the report.

Some specialist tests are referred out of the department and these are indicated in the table.

The table also indicates whether the test is in our UKAS accreditation schedule. Please note that if a test is not accredited, this only indicates that it has not yet been assessed by UKAS and placed onto our schedule.

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All tests are equally valid and reliable and all are treated with the same robust quality measures to ensure that they are accurate.

Test	In house	Referred	UKAS accreditation
H&E	Y	N	Y
PAP	Y	N	Y
GIEMSA	Y	N	Y
ANDROLOGY FERTILITY – WYCOMBE	Y	N	Y
ANDROLOGY PVSA - WYCOMBE	Y	N	Y
ANDROLOGY FERTILITY – STOKE MANDEVILLE	Y	N	N
ANDROLOGY PVSA – STOKE MANDEVILLE	Y	N	N
SKIN IMMUNOFLUORESCENCE	N	Y-OUH	Y -OUF
All ICC Antibodies below	Y	N	Y
34BE12 (CK1/5/10/14)			
CK7			
OCT 4			
AFP			
CK14			
P16			
AE1/3			
CK19			
P504S/ RACEMACE/AMACR			
ACTIN			
CK20			
P53			
BETA CATENIN			
CHROMO A			
P63			
BCL-2			
CMV			
PAX 8			
BEREP4			
CYCLIN D1			
PAP			
PSAP			
CALRETININ			
D2-40			
PLAP			
CA125			
DESMIN			
PROGESTERONE RECEPTOR			
CAM5.2			
DOG-1			
PSA			
CD3			
EMA			

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RCC			
CD5			
E-CADHERIN			
S100			
CD10			
ESTROGEN RECEPTOR			
SMOOTH MUSCLE MYOSIN			
CD15			
F13A			
SOX10			
CD20			
GATA 3			
SYNAPTOPHYSIN			
CD30			
GCDFP15			
TFE3			
CD31			
H. PYLORI			
THROMBOMODULIN			
CD34			
HCG			
THYROGLOBULIN			
CD45/LCA			
HEPATOCYTE			
TTF-1			
CD56			
HMB45			
VIMENTIN			
CD68			
INHIBIN			
VS38C			
CD99(MIC2)			
KI-67 (MIBI)			
WT-1			
CD117 (C-KIT)			
MAMMAGLOBIN			
CDX-2			
MELAN A			
34BE12/P504S DUAL			
CEA			
MNF116			
P63/P504S DUAL			
CK5/6			
MOC31			
CK14/ER DUAL			
NAPSIN A			
SMM/ER DUAL			
ALL SPECIAL STAINS	Y	N	Y

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MANUAL			
Gram EVG Copper Associated protein (Orcein) Picromallory MSB Van Gieson (HVG) Wade Fite Thionin ZN			
ALL SPECIAL STAINS AUTOMATED	Y	N	Y
Retic Masson Trichrome Congo Red PAS PASD ABPAS DABPAS Alcian blue/neutral red (AB/NR) Grocott (GMS) Perls Giemsa			
ALL MOLECULAR TESTS	N	Y - OUH	Y – OUH
Her 2 Gastric Her BRAF EGFR NRAS KIT ALK ROS KRAS MMR MSI immuno PD-L1 PIK3CA Gist Melanoma Cancer panel			