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Clinical Biochemistry Department  
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London

**Suspension of Procollagen-3 N-Terminal Peptide (P3NP) assay service**

I am writing to you to inform you that our **procollagen-3 N-terminal Peptide (P3NP)** service has been suspended with immediate effect.

This is due to a change in kit formulation instigated by our kit supplier, which has introduced a significant negative bias to patient results. Our laboratory team are continuing to evaluate the new kit and are liaising directly with Oxford Biosystems (distributor) / Aidian (manufacturer) to investigate this issue.

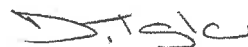
Unfortunately, we cannot safely offer an alternative P3NP test. This is due to the critical reliance on Aidan-derived results for using the P3NP cut-offs quoted in the British Association of Dermatologists (BAD) guidelines to detect possible liver fibrosis in patients on methotrexate therapy. Other laboratory sites using the Aidian method will also be affected. Regrettably, alternative P3NP assays do not provide results that align to BAD P3NP cut-offs.

We apologise for the inconvenience this will cause and will be in contact once this issue has been resolved. Rest assured, any samples already received for P3NP analysis will be stored safely, pending the outcome of our investigations.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Colin Stone  
Service Delivery Manager  
Reference Biochemistry Laboratories



Dr David Taylor  
Consultant Clinical Scientist  
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