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Dear Customer

As you would hopefully already be aware, a major change will occur to the IT systems used in the laboratories based at King's College and Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals. The changes will be implemented on Thursday 5th October 2023, and your Immunology reports may appear different to what they did previously. At the same time, we have made some enhancements to our lab processes, hopefully improving our service to you. We shall include a comment in our reports where we have made changes to facilitate interpretation. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need any help understanding any of the changes that have been made or to let us know if anything needs correcting.

The changes are highlighted in the table below:

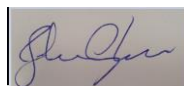
Site	User Group	Test	Description of Change
ALL	Rheumatology	Connective Tissue Disease (CTD) Panel / Anti-nuclear antibodies (ANA)	CTD will now be our screening test for detecting the most common rheumatic disease-associated antibodies. ANA by indirect immunofluorescence will still be available for the odd occasion to help with interpretation. Results will now be reported in units, where < 0.7 is negative, 0.7 -1.0 is equivocal and >1 is positive.
PRUH, PRUH GP	Liver, Gastroenterology, Haematology	Antibodies to Liver, Kidney and Stomach antigens	This test will now be ordered separately as an autoantibody screen. Anti-nuclear antibodies are not automatically included in a request for an autoantibody screen and need to be ordered separately if you require liver autoimmune investigations. If you are investigating for connective tissue disorders, please see above.

ALL	Rheumatology	ENA characterisation	There will be two additional antibodies that will be measured in this panel, namely; Centromere Protein B and U1-RNP
PRUH, PRUH GP	Gastroenterology	Coeliac screening	IgA concentration will no longer be a standard part of this test unless the analyser indicates very low levels of anti-TTG. As previously done, an IgG Endomysial antibody test will follow if there is IgA deficiency.
PRUH, PRUH GP	Monoclonal Gammopathy, Haematology	Paraprotein quantitation	Paraprotein concentration will now be rounded up or down to the nearest whole number in grams per litre.
PRUH, PRUH GP	Endocrinology	Thyroid peroxidase antibodies	This assay will be moving from the Thermofisher ImmunoCAP platform to the Roche Cobas analyser. There will be a change in the reference range. The new normal range will be <34 units, the equivocal range from 25 – 35 will disappear.
PRUH, PRUH GP	Allergy	Allergy mixes	Allergy (specific IgE) mixes will be reported in kUA/ml and no longer qualitatively. For PRUH EPIC orders, a whole catalogue of Specific IgE tests will be available on the system. For PRUH GPs, the previous option of using the RAST test for tests not available in T-Quest will continue, and the lab will add the tests listed in the comments box.


Yours Sincerely



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