



Blood and Transplant

**TO: Transfusion Laboratory Managers, Transfusion Practitioners, Chair of HTC, Chair of RTC,
Consultant Haematologist with responsibility for Blood Transfusion, England EPRR**

08 October 2021

Referring samples to RCI during tube shortage

Dear Colleagues,

RCI have undertaken a risk assessment and for the duration of the tube shortage will accept samples which have been collected into tubes which are within 1 month of expiry. A comment will be added to the report, but no concession paperwork will be issued. Please do not prospectively collect samples into expired tubes on this basis. Any samples collected into tubes that are more than 1 month post expiry will be managed via the normal concession process.

RCI will attempt to complete investigations when only a single sample tube is referred but may not be able to conclude complex investigations including cross match or adsorptions on a single tube.

Should you have any questions concerning this please contact your Hospital Customer Service Manager.

Mark Williams

Head of Red Cell Immunohaematology

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