



Blood and Transplant

International Blood Group Reference Laboratory

500 North Bristol Park

Northway

Filton

Bristol

BS34 7QH

Molecular Diagnostics

Dear Colleagues,

We have seen a significant reduction in requests for non-invasive pre-natal testing (NIPT) for fetal sex determination, which has made it difficult to maintain competency, turn-around times and cost effectiveness.

NHS Blood and Transplant therefore, will divest this test from 1st April 2023.

NIPT fetal sex determination is available through the genetics hubs. The link below will take you to the "Rare and inherited disease eligibility criteria" document (search R251) and the "National genomic test directory for rare and inherited disease" document where the "explanatory note" tab will inform you of the process for sample referral. Please note that this may include a change to the sample tubes required.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/national-genomic-test-directories/>

The testing may require funding approval from your local Genetics Laboratory Hub (GLH). Testing is conducted at either Central and South GLH (Birmingham) or at North Thames GLH (GOSH) as per the enclosed document.

Links for service packs, referral cards and information sheets can be found at the relevant GLH website, below.

www.labs.gosh.nhs.uk/laboratory-services/genetics

<https://bwc.nhs.uk/prenatal-reproductive-genomic-testing>

Kind Regards,
Shane Grimsley (DipRCPath)
Senior Clinical Scientist, IBGRL
Enc.

Our laboratory is accredited to ISO 15189: 2012 by United Kingdom Accreditation Service.

Our accreditation is described in our UKAS accreditation schedule, found via the following URL:

<https://ibgri.blood.co.uk/licensing-and-accreditation/>