

Important information for action:

Christmas & New Year Holiday arrangements for fetal *RHD* screening samples

Dear colleagues

In a bid to ensure that fetal *RHD* screening samples arrive in time over the Christmas & New Year Bank Holidays, we would like to make you aware of our transport and working times.

NHSBT overnight transport times between centres **will vary depending upon blood supply activity** over this period. This is especially important for Trusts where it may take 2 or 3 days for NHSBT Transport to deliver samples.

Please note that:

- NHSBT Filton 'Goods in' is manned 24/7 and therefore able to receive samples 24/7 but
- IBGRL Molecular Diagnostics opening times will be limited to those stated in the attachment.

Therefore, whilst samples will continue to be received at NHSBT Filton on non-working days, they will **not be received and processed by Molecular Diagnostics until their next working day.**

With this in mind, any samples received by Molecular Diagnostics that are >7 days old will be rejected, **even if they were in date when they were received at NHSBT Filton.**

To prevent samples from being rejected during this period, please consider sending these samples by 1st class post (dependent on Royal Mail industrial action) or courier ensuring next day delivery.

Kind regards
Erika

Erika Rutherford

Business Development Manager, Molecular Diagnostics
NHS Blood and Transplant

Mobile 0044 (0)7808906398

Email: erika.rutherford@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Visit <https://ibgrl.blood.co.uk/>