

The Update for February 2025

NHS England sickle cell and thalassaemia blood group genotyping test - patient referral and programme extension

Programme extension

The NHS England sickle cell and thalassaemia blood group genotyping programme has been extended and will continue to provide testing free of charge to hospitals until 30 June 2025.

Guidance for submitting a sample

We are still rejecting a high number of samples. [Please refer to the guidance when submitting samples](#) ensuring the referral form is fully complete and the sample tube is signed and dated.

Rejection reports

We are processing samples and referrals as soon we receive them and making the rejection reports available on [Sp-ICE](#).

Monthly sample and referral data

If you would like a list of the patient whose samples have been accepted or rejected from your hospital, please email Transfusion@nhsbt.nhs.uk providing the hospital(s) name and the email address of a named Consultant, or clinical lead.

Genotyping results reporting

Our teams are working to issue results as soon as possible. We will notify the relevant teams in hospitals before issuing genotyping reports.

Genomics Programme Team, NHSBT

Register to attend the Advanced Transfusion Masterclass, 12 March 2025, NHS England funded places are available

Join us for this one-day online, interactive masterclass which explores specialist antenatal testing and complex transfusion case studies. The masterclass is designed for experienced Biomedical Scientists working at band 6 and higher, with more than two years of transfusion experience.

This is the final antenatal masterclass we will be running, the next masterclass will cover a different theme.

For more detail, and to book, please visit the [Learning Centre](#) website. If you have any questions about booking, please email scientificandclinicaltra@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Alison Hines - Scientific & Clinical Training & Education (SCTE) Manager

Interactive workshops for Transfusion Practitioners on the future of the TP role. 'Developing and Elevating the TP Role: From Reflection to Action'

Come along to one of our interactive sessions in April and May to:

- Get an update on the work done so far
- Learn about the proposed next steps
- Share your thoughts and help shape the future of the TP role across England

[Visit the National Transfusion Practitioner Network webpage to register](#)

[Download our workshop poster \(PDF 235KB\)](#)

Jennifer Rock - Transfusion Education Specialist, Transfusion T2024

Register to attend a RCI Assist training session, 5 dates are available in March

[RCI Assist](#) is a support tool to guide hospital laboratory staff to either refer a sample to RCI or process the sample in-house.

Following the awareness sessions held in January, we are running online training sessions (45 minutes) in March. You do not need to have attended an awareness session to attend training.

For more details about the training, and to register visit the [National Blood Transfusion Committee website](#).

Helen Thom - RCI Development Lead, Transfusion 2024

Our next customer satisfaction survey, Spring 2025 For Transfusion Lab Managers to rate us on our services

We'll be sending our survey to Transfusion Laboratory Managers next month. Their feedback is invaluable; it helps us to focus on developing our services, turning the insights we get into actions that improve our performance and hospitals' satisfaction.

You can read the results from the [Autumn 2024 survey](#) and the areas for improvement we are focusing on.

Inga Willett - Customer Service Manager, Hospital Customer Service

Upgraded Patient Blood Management (PBM) webpages and new resources for healthcare professionals on the Hospitals and Science website

The PBM pages of the Hospitals and Science website have been upgraded. New content is available in a more intuitive, navigable and accessible format.

[View the PBM pages](#)

We'd be pleased to hear your feedback. Please email to pbm.team@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Clare Cook - PBM Practitioner, PBM

The Update is produced by Hospital Customer Service on behalf of NHS Blood and Transplant

NHSBT.customerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk

0208 201 3107