

To: Transfusion Laboratory Managers

09 September 2025

Field Safety Notice: FSN 2025-05_FastQ B27 HLA B27 testing

Dear Colleague,

We would like to bring to your attention that NHSBT has been issued a field safety notice by a key supplier in relation to reagents used for HLA B27 testing.

From July 15 2025 there is a risk that a small number of patient's samples may have been incorrectly reported as negative. All samples that have been reported as positive are correct.

We have identified all affected samples, and retesting is in progress where a sample is still available. In some cases it may be necessary to rebleed patients. You will be notified in writing if we need a replacement sample from your patient. In the unlikely event that the patient tests positive, a new report will be issued in Sp-ICE when retesting is complete.

We have implemented an alternative testing method for samples received since 2 September 2025 but there may be a short delay in turnaround time for HLA B27 testing in the coming weeks while the supplier resolves the problem.

If you have any queries, please direct them to HINATNL@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Please forward this letter to laboratory and clinical staff as appropriate.

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