

Wessex Genomics Laboratory Service (Salisbury)

Sample acceptance policy during the COVID-19 pandemic

Clinicians must continue to notify the laboratory when sending a sample from a known or suspected COVID-19 patient; such samples should be clearly labelled with a 'Danger of Infection' or 'High Infection Risk' sticker. Failure to do so will put the laboratory staff at increased risk.

We are now accepting buccal samples (mouthbrushes or saliva samples) for cases where an alternative sample is not possible; however, please ensure that saliva samples are taken into the appropriate container (Oragene OG-575 collection pots) and that all buccal samples are labelled with a 'Danger of Infection' or 'High Infection Risk' sticker.

PLEASE NOTE that we will NOT accept mouthbrush, saliva or lung tissue samples from a known or suspected COVID-19 patient under any circumstances.

If you require further guidance, please contact our Duty Scientist: shc-tr.WRGLdutyscientist@nhs.net

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our service users for their patience and continued support.