

Wessex Regional Genetics Laboratory

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.

Buccal scrapes (mouthbrushes) or lung tissue samples should not be sent to the laboratory, while saliva samples should only be sent in exceptional circumstances (i.e. where there is an urgent clinical need and an alternative sample is not possible); in these circumstances, please contact the laboratory prior to sending the sample: shc-tr.WRGLdutyscientist@nhs.net

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

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