

27 October 2010

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To: General Practitioners  
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Dear Colleague

### Pathology Users Group - 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010

The following issues were discussed at the Pathology Users Group on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.  
Please can you feedback any comments to me?

- Monitoring statin therapy. Only the ALT need be requested, full LFTs are not required. ICE will be amended so that requesting 'statin monitoring' only results in an ALT request. Should the ALT be abnormal, full LFTs will automatically be generated.
- Monitoring thyroxine and QOF for hypothyroidism. Only a TSH is necessary. Again ICE requesting will be amended and full TFTs will be generated if the TSH result is abnormal.
- Faecal occult bloods. It is proposed that this test is removed from the repertoire. This is because the bowel screening programme is now in place and for diagnostic purposes current guidelines do not support use of FOBs as the test is considered insensitive and non-specific. **Please let me know if you have any objections to this.**
- For suspected cases of myeloma, ICE requesting will be changed to 'myeloma screen' This will generate a request for immunoglobulins and protein electrophoresis, and a prompt to request a urine sample for Bence Jones protein.

With thanks



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