

29<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear RUH Immunology Service Users,

### **Allergen specific IgE Requesting**

#### **What is changing?**

From 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026, the requesting of allergen specific IgE's is changing. The request no longer goes by the outdated term of RAST. In the ICE system, there is now an Allergy Testing page (bottom left of the departmental panel). This includes the 21 most commonly requested primary care specific IgE's, with advice on appropriate testing and a link to the Royal College of Pathologists Best Practice recommendations - guidelines for the use of laboratory allergy tests in primary care. Please note that all allergy testing should be based on an appropriate clinical history and limited to relevant allergens. Timothy grass specific IgE is the first line test for grass allergy. Additional allergen specific IgE's can be requested using the search field.

In Millenium, the term RAST has again been superseded by allergen specific IgE, with the option of additional allergens being added in the search field.

#### **Will I notice any change in my results?**

The testing method is unchanged, however, a number of allergen specific IgE's have been repatriated to North Bristol Trust, which should have a positive impact on turn-around time. Reports will include a quantitative result, grade and grade interpretation.

Grade 0 – negative

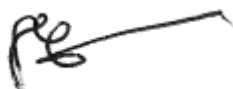
Grade 1-2 – weak positive

Grade 3-4 – moderate positive

Grade 5-6 – strong positive

If you have any concerns about this change, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards,



**Dr Sarah Johnston**

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