

29<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear RUH Immunology Service Users,

### **Antiphospholipid Syndrome Requesting**

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

In addition to the change in method for anti-cardiolipin antibody testing under the forthcoming Immunology Laboratory consolidation (further information to follow), I am writing to inform you of a change to antiphospholipid syndrome test requesting. Based on previous audit, incomplete testing and unnecessary multiple repeat testing is common. The process has therefore been reconfigured to improve the efficiency and clinical utility of testing. In ICE (and we hope to duplicate the process in Millenium), the antiphospholipid syndrome profile will sit on the Immunology page, and this should be used instead of anti-cardiolipin or lupus anticoagulant requesting. A series of questions, with drop down boxes, need to be completed in order for the request to proceed. A lupus anticoagulant will automatically be added to the antiphospholipid panel if appropriate from the answer to the anticoagulation question.

The repeat test interval of 12 weeks has been applied to confirmatory testing, as per current guidelines. For patients with 3 or more previous positive results, further testing will be declined as this is not clinically indicated.

Lupus anticoagulant will still be available as a single request where necessary.

#### **When is the change happening?**

The requesting pathway will go live in ICE on 05/05/2026.

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

Kind regards,



**Royal United Hospitals Bath**  
NHS Foundation Trust

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Johnston'.

**Dr Sarah Johnston**

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