

Immunology & Immunogenetics

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Dear RUH Immunology Service Users,

Anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide (CCP) antibodies: notification of change in method and site of testing

What is changing? From **Friday 10th April 2026** the method and site for anti-CCP antibody testing is changing. CCP antibody testing will be performed at the Immunology & Immunogenetics laboratory, Southmead Hospital at North Bristol Trust from this date.

In addition, a new method for measuring anti-CCP antibodies in serum is being implemented. We will be switching from the current QUANTA Lite anti-CCP3.1 IgG/IgA DS2 ELISA (Inova Diagnostics) to the EliA anti-CCP2 IgG Phadia 250 FEIA method (ThermoFisher Scientific).

The new method will increase assay automation and testing capacity, reduce result turnaround times and provide a greater level of diagnostic accuracy. The switch will also align us with the majority of UK clinical laboratories measuring IgG-only anti-CCP2 antibodies.

Will I notice any differences to my results? Yes.

Quantitative comparison: the numerical results generated by the new method (reported in U/mL) are **not** comparable to the values generated by your current method (reported in "units"). As anti-CCP antibodies are not typically measured sequentially for monitoring purposes, this will have a limited clinical impact.

The reference intervals (ranges) are changing. The current ranges (negative <20, weak positive 20 – 39, moderate positive 40 – 59 and strong positive ≥60 units) are being replaced by the following:

- **Negative:** <7 U/mL
- **Equivocal:** 7 – 10 U/mL
- **Positive:** >10 U/mL



Ingrid Barker, Joint Chair.
Maria Kane, Joint Chief Executive.

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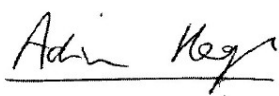
Qualitative comparison: method comparison indicated the new assay will generate significantly fewer weak or moderate positive anti-CCP antibody results that are of questionable clinical significance (i.e., fewer false positive results).

Examination of the discordant results that were identified as part of our method evaluation (positive on your current method, negative on the new method) identified that none of these patients had received a definitive diagnosis of Rheumatoid Arthritis.

When? The new anti-CCP method will go live for RUH on Friday **10th April 2026**.

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Kind regards



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