### Happy New Year from CSL And Thank You for Your Support!



CSL has now been providing cervical screening and related support services for nearly two months. We are happy to report, even though it was a significant change for all involved, the service is running well and we would like to thank each and every one of you for your patience and support during this transition.

By the end of January approximately 100,000 hr HPV screening tests will have been processed by CSL resulting in over 12,000 reflex cytology slides. CSL will also have administered the London wide direct referral service to colposcopy units and supported nearly 100 multidisciplinary team meetings.

Staff from across London have come together to form a cohesive and enthusiastic CSL team who are working hard to familiarise themselves with their new environment and the specific issues important to the new pan-London service.

## Has everyone now connected to CSL for electronic requests and reports?

Unfortunately despite concerted efforts by HSL/TDL and STP/CCG IT teams, there are still many practices yet to be fully connected.

Although about 90% of practices are able to receive electronic results, only 50% are requesting via tQuest.

These vital electronic links are necessary to reduce the potential for data errors and to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of processes throughout the sample testing, reporting and follow up pathways.

If you are currently requesting via tQuest and receiving results into your practice management system, thank you – you do not need to take further action.

If you are not receiving CSL results into your practice management system and/or are not electronically requesting cervical screening tests from CSL using tQuest, please urgently complete the steps below.

The instructions for connection to CSL were detailed in Sample Taker Update 3 – November 2019 and PDF guides for EMIS and SystmOne have again been included with this communication. **These guides can also be accessed via our website www.hslpathology.com/csl**.

To connect to CSL for electronic results and/or tQuest order comms:

1 Follow the PDF guide applicable to your practice management system (EMIS Web or SystmOne)

- 2 Complete the Excel sheet listing the names and details of all staff who will be ordering cervical screening tests. You will need the spreadsheet later to activate the tQuest accounts for these users, see point 7
- 3 Email the completed Excel sheet to helpdesk@tdlpathology.com
- **4** You will receive an automated reply email with a case reference number
- 5 Within 5 working days CSL will email you to advise a test result has been sent to your pathology inbox
- 6 You will receive further instructions on how to check for this dummy result and report any issues
- 7 Once the result pathway has been confirmed you will be sent instructions on how to activate the tQuest accounts for all staff listed on the spreadsheet provided in point 2 above.

If you have any difficulties please contact the CSL IT team at **helpdesk@tdlpathology.com** or by phoning **020 7307 7365**.

### Have there been any issues transporting cervical screening samples to the CSL lab?

Most practices have quickly become accustomed to packaging their CSL samples in the purple transport bags and making sure they are given to the CSL courier.

However, a few practices continue to send cervical screening samples to their previous cervical screening providers or via previous transport pathways. As CSL is the only cervical screening provider for London, these labs no longer provide transport or testing for cervical screening samples. Samples sent to these labs will at best experience delays in processing and at worst, are at serious risk of being lost.

Please ensure all reception, administration and any locum staff at your practice are aware of the specific packaging and transport procedures for cervical screening samples.

Do not send cervical screening samples to previous service providers or give them to couriers who are not from the approved CSL (TDL Collect) transport team.

# Have any other pathology samples been mistakenly sent to CSL?

Yes, it is very concerning that CSL continue to receive non-CSL samples in the CSL purple sample transport bags. These have included bloods, urine, swabs, stools and other time critical pathology samples. Use of these bags to transport pathology specimens other than cervical samples will cause delayed delivery, increase the risk of sample deterioration and potentially impact the accuracy of test results and subsequent patient management.

Only cervical screening samples (ThinPrep vials and forms) should be packed in the CSL purple transport bags.

Under no circumstances should any other pathology samples be placed in CSL transport bags.

#### How have sample takers performed with respect to labelling, patient details and ensuring samples are from women within the programme guidelines?

CSL can report that most sample takers have been very careful to ensure samples are fit for testing.

However, there are a few sample takers who continue to send samples which are not compliant with the requirements of the programme. Issues include samples collected before the recommended recall period, samples from young women not yet eligible for screening, unlabelled vials or vials with insufficient identification and forms with missing data.

Some sample takers using tQuest are inadvertently checking 'yes' in response to the 'trainee sample taker' and 'TOC' (test of cure) questions on the screen. This leads to extra testing which was not required by the programme so please be extra careful with these responses.

Programme requirements can be reviewed in the document accessed via the link below and we ask that all sample takers familiarise themselves with these requirements to avoid sample rejection.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/ uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/669132/ Guidance-for-acceptance-of-cervical-screeningsamples.pdf

#### What's next for CSL?

The CSL service is currently split between two near located sites in central London. Sample reception, administration and HPV testing are carried out on level 2 of the Halo Building and reflex cytology reporting on Level 5, 250 Euston Road.

We are in the process of remodelling an entire level of the Halo Building to house all aspects of the CSL service. This state of the art facility will be ready for CSL to move in to in March/April this year.



# Will CSL conduct training and research related to cervical screening?

Yes, CSL has engaged an expert clinical team from across London.

Dr Evangelia Mylona (Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust) has been appointed as the CSL consultant specialty clinical lead for cytology with Dr Corrina Wright (Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust) heading CSL research and Dr Tanya Levine (London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust and London Regional Cytology Training Centre) leading CSL's teaching and training activities.

The entire CSL team look forward to working with all cervical screening stakeholders to ensure the CSL service continues to provide best practice cervical screening to the women of London.

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