



Practice Manager alert

Trainee sample takers

Please be aware that trainee NHS cervical screening sample takers are not permitted to take more than 25 samples whilst they are trainees. Trainees should be supported and encouraged to complete all aspects of their sample taker training; this includes the final external assessment for competency sign off. Trainees must submit their training documents to their training provider, who should issue them a final certificate and competency statement. This is to be uploaded to LonCSTD, who will verify their training and issue a 'qualified' ST code. Then they may resume sample taking.

Faster test results

Did you know that you can receive electronic copies of your results? This can be set up for you if you contact the HSL IT department at helpdesk@tdlpathology.com. GPs can get faster results via the pathology links.

Please note

Colposcopy, Gynaecology clinics and Sexual Health clinics can be set up with access to e-view or receive emailed results.

Accuracy matters

The efficiency of the screening programme is reliant on everyone getting it right first time.

CSL has received feedback from the Cervical Screening Administration Service (CSAS) regarding an increase in manual matching rates for the London area.

What do we mean by manual matching?

For laboratory results to be electronically accepted, the data sent from CSL must match exactly what is held on the Open Exeter database.

Spelling mistakes, omissions or abbreviations will cause CSAS to reject the result record. The result will then need to be processed manually, hence a delay to the individual's result letter being sent.

Using abbreviations such as 'LOND' will cause a result to be rejected on Open Exeter.

CSL discourages the use of handwritten forms and, where possible, prefers tQuest or pre-printed HMR101 forms. If using handwritten forms, please ensure the details are clear and accurate.

We rely on sample takers to complete details on the form and vial accurately before sending to the laboratory.

Rejected samples

Rejected samples create anxiety for the individuals who have had a cervical sample taken. They also create stress and additional work for sample takers and the laboratory.

We can reduce anxiety levels and workload by negating the need for repeat appointments.

From April to June 2022, CSL rejected:

- 530 samples where the sample and form did not match
- 1,053 samples that were out of programme

Some helpful tips to reduce the number of rejected samples, ideally when an individual calls to book a cervical screening appointment:

- check if the individual has received an invitation letter, if in doubt
- check Open Exeter to determine 'Next Test Due Date' before a sample is taken and check that details on the sample and form have been fully completed before sending.

Reminder – samples will be rejected if:

- cervical samples are taken more than THREE months BEFORE the due date
- samples are repeated in less than THREE months after an inadequate/unreliable result
- the sample/request form is unlabelled/insufficiently labelled
- the LBC vial is out of date – please check before sending.

London Cervical Sample Database update

As you are aware, CSL continues to work closely with NHSE (Public Health), ICS nursing leads and the medical directorate (NHSE) to support a London-wide investigation into a serious incident involving the CSTD.

As a result of the investigation and feedback from colleagues, the LonCSTD will undergo several changes to improve user experience.

The new database will go live on **Monday 5 September 2022**.

There will be no change to the location of the webpage <https://loncstd.england.nhs.uk/> and an updated user guide will be available to help navigate any changes.

Summary of changes from September 2022:

- new look welcome page
- staged registration process to help users ensure they have the correct documents to upload
- automated alerts to remind users how to reset their password
- automated alerts to remind users when completion of training or updated training is due.

The user guide and link to the database will also be available on our website:

<https://www.hslpathology.com/csl/>

CSL's website is a valuable way of communicating with all sample takers and contains previous editions of these updates, alongside links to current professional guidance.

We welcome your feedback. Should you have any difficulties, please contact the team at csl.cstd@nhs.net

How are we doing?

National Turnaround Times – July 2022

(measuring % achieved against the 14-day target)

Vital signs	%
England	74.1
London	86.3
South SE (ASPH)	99.2
South SW (Bristol)	99.0
North NE (Gateshead)	85.0
North NW (Manchester)	46.0
Mids & E – East Midlands (Derby)	2.0
Mids & E – East (Norfolk & Norwich)	81.2
Mids & E – West (Wolverhampton)	65.0

London SQAS study day – 20 June

London SQAS held a study day on 20 June. CSL presented data from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. Later this year, we will share data from across England and how London compares. Watch this space!

CSL	Number of Tests April 2021 – March 2022
HPV Tests	713,036
Reflex Cytology	99,365 (13.9%)

Age	HPV Tests
20-24	22,618
>65	1,412

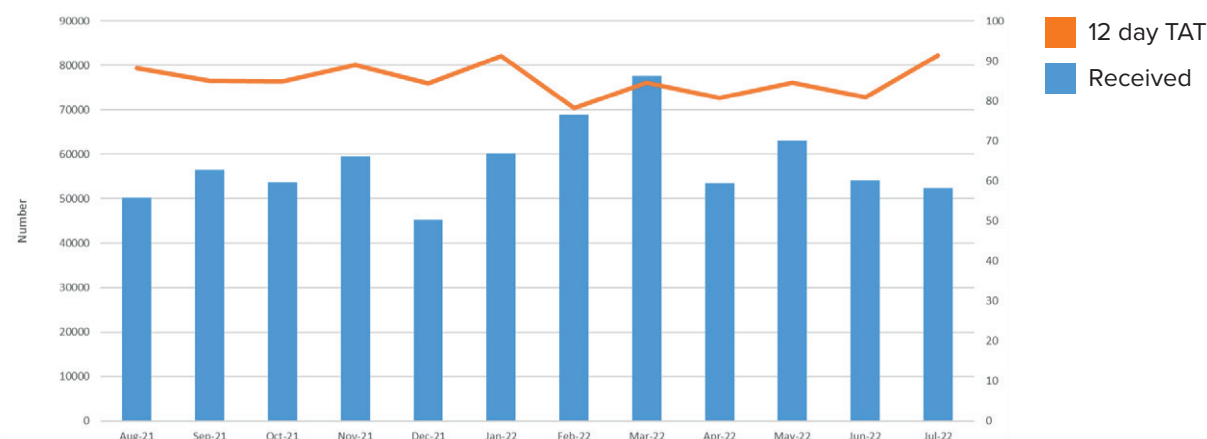
Result Grade	% of all cytology cases
Inadequate	1.0
Negative	93.7
Borderline & Low Grade Dyskaryosis	4.9
Moderate Dyskaryosis	0.9
High Grade 4, 5 & 6	0.8

Visitors to the laboratory

CSL still adheres to Covid-safe working practices but is delighted to host sample takers on site at the Halo Building, 1 Mabledon Place, London. CSL has welcomed close to 200 trainee sample takers to the laboratory.

Email csl.queries@nhs.net if you would like to arrange a visit.

CSL cases received vs monthly 12 day turnaround times Aug 21 – July 22



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