



## Procedure for Sending Urgent Biochemistry Samples South Sector

If your sample collection is after 13:00 we cannot guarantee that your sample will be analysed that day. It is therefore **ESSENTIAL** to inform the biochemistry department if you have any urgent samples you wish analysed on the same day as collection. This is particularly important on a Friday or day before a public holiday.

To inform the laboratory of any **URGENT** samples, you must phone **0141 354 9060 (Option 4)** where you will speak to the Duty Biochemist.

- Samples should be packaged in a **separate brown envelope** clearly marked **"URGENT"**
- If there is no immediate routine sample collection due, consider sending the sample by **TAXI**
- A direct telephone number should be provided for the result to be phoned to.

\*\* You should also include a **mobile number**, usually the requesting GP mobile, for results phoned after 6 pm \*\*

## PTH & Vitamin D Requesting

### When should you request PTH analysis ?

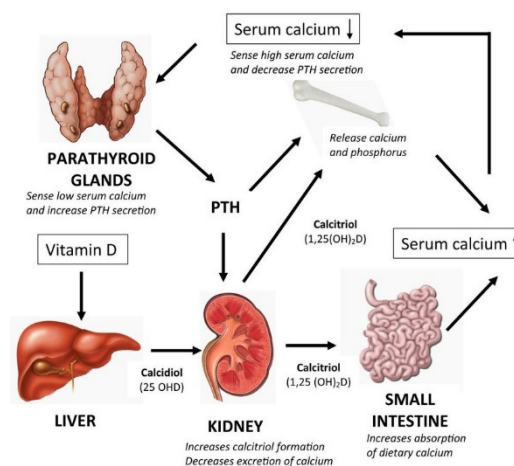
A rise in PTH is often multifactorial. Even after adequate replacement with Vitamin D, PTH elevation may persist for many weeks to months. Unless there is a significant change in a patient's clinical condition, there is usually no indication for repeating PTH analysis before 3-6 months.

### When should you request Vitamin D analysis ?

Vitamin D is not helpful in investigation of tiredness, chronic fatigue or non-specific aches and pains with normal bone biochemistry.

Indications for requesting vitamin D include:-

- **SUSPECTED OSTEOMALACIA** – A syndrome characterised by malaise, multifocal bone pain with tenderness and proximal myopathy. It is associated with abnormal bone biochemistry ( $\uparrow$ ALP,  $\downarrow/\leftrightarrow$  Calcium,  $\uparrow$  PTH &  $\downarrow$  Vitamin D).
- **RICKETS** – Bone pain, poor growth & soft, weak bones that can lead to deformities in children.
- **MALABSORPTION SYNDROME** – Known Crohn's disease, Coeliac disease, small bowel resection or pancreatic disorders.



Hyperlink to Guidelines:-

[NHS GGC Vitamin D Guideline](#)

## CA125 Audit

In our previous Newsletter (March 2020) we presented the data on an NHSGGC wide pilot audit from The Scottish Clinical Biochemistry Network (SCBN) on the use of CA125 in investigation of women presenting with symptoms which may be due to ovarian cancer. The audit was subsequently rolled out across Scotland and the full national audit report can now be viewed on the SCBN website [SCBN CA125 National Audit](#).

As requested, we would also like to include a link to the Scottish Cancer Referral Guidelines

(<http://www.cancerreferral.scot.nhs.uk/gynaecological-cancers/?alttemplate=Guideline>) which are referred to in this audit.

We would be delighted with your feedback on issues that you would like us to address in the newsletter. We are also keen to reach as large an audience in primary care as possible. Do you have suggestions how we can widen distribution better? Comments or suggestions can be sent to:

Jane McNeilly ([j.mcneilly@nhs.net](mailto:j.mcneilly@nhs.net)) or Tom Moffat ([Tom.Moffat@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Tom.Moffat@ggc.scot.nhs.uk))