

**Primary Care pathology activity relating to October 5 go-live**

**Q What is happening and why?**

A Owing to the amalgamation over time of various pathology services, there are now multiple different IT systems and analytical instruments in use across south east London. By consolidating these IT systems and replacing aged analysers, GP practices will see improvements in efficiency and resilience to pathology services. Reducing non-urgent pathology activity will support Synnovis during the transition period.

**Q How do these changes impact GP practices?**

A There are three activities taking place on or around October 5 which will impact GP practices. These are:

	<b>GP Practice impact</b>	<b>Why?</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Who is affected?</b>	<b>What do GP practices need to do or know?</b>
<b>tQuest consolidation</b>	There will be a period of planned tQuest downtime.	This will allow the multiple versions of tQuest to be consolidated.	October 4 from 7.30pm	All GP practices in south east London	There will be specific actions for practices to take in order to prepare for the consolidated IT system. GP practices will receive tailored and targeted borough-specific communications about how to prepare. The processes of test ordering and results will not change.
<b>Haematology analysers swap out</b>	There will be some delays to turn around times for haematology samples during and after the swap out. There may be minor reference range changes.	Aged analytical instruments will be swapped out for new analysers.	October 5	GSTT facing GP practices, mostly Southwark and Lambeth	Be aware of planned delays to TaTs and feel reassured that critical results will continue to be telephoned through to practices. There may be minor changes to reference ranges which will be communicated in September to the affected boroughs.
<b>Activity Reduction</b>	We are requesting support from primary and community care colleagues to reduce non-urgent pathology activity.	Activity reduction will support our laboratories during this transition.	From 5 to 9 October	All GP practices in south east London.	Reduce non-urgent pathology activity. Diverting resources or appointments during this window for other activity such as cervical smears or vaccinations. Urgent samples will continue to be processed and there are some community and urgent services which will continue as normal.