NE&Y Genomic Laboratory Hub Central Laboratory Leeds

<https://www.leedsth.nhs.uk/a-z-of-services/the-leeds-genetics-laboratory/>

January 2022

**Re: Delays to North East & Yorkshire Genomic Laboratory Hub (NE&Y GLH) Central Laboratory Leeds genomic testing services**

Dear Genomic Laboratory Users,

I am writing to advise that, for a combination of reasons centred around significant national and local reconfiguration of genomic services and the impact of COVID creating challenge with staffing levels and supply chain, the laboratory has not been able to sustain backlog recovery and many of our current services are not being reported to the turnaround time guidelines that you may normally expect.

We continue to work together with our partners in the NE&Y GLH [ney-genomics.org.uk](https://ney-genomics.org.uk/)  to manage recovery plans to rectify this and improve performance; however it will take several months before a significant improvement is apparent for some services.

Please be assured that we will prioritise the most urgent clinical work which includes:

* pregnant women undergoing prenatal diagnosis;
* patients needing urgent advice on carrier testing relating to pregnancy examples include cystic fibrosis and thalassaemia;
* those faced with abnormal fetal scans; critically ill neonates and children requiring assessment and those for whom the rapid PICU/NICU WES is appropriate;
* conditions where rapid genetic testing may alter clinical treatment or decision making; and
* patients requiring urgent testing, for example BRCA testing, to inform chemotherapy options.

Please do contact the laboratory:

* before sending a sample if you are uncertain whether a genetic test is suitable
* if a sample you have already sent becomes clinically urgent, we will work to re-prioritise.

We wish to thank you for your patience.

Yours Faithfully

James Steer

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