

**FROM LEEDS PATHOLOGY LABORATORY**  
**Update on HbA1c Discarded Samples from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2023**

4<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Service User

Due to current staffing shortages HbA1c is currently being processed in batches. When the batch for the 1st of December was searched for there were no samples found. The investigation in the laboratory has revealed that the HbA1c samples on the 1st of December were mistaken for FBC samples as they share the same tube type and were represented to the laboratory track in error before analysis for HbA1c could be completed, this meant that the HbA1c samples were presented to the storage module and automatically discarded after 3 days. Thus, the samples had to be reported with the comment- **'Samples discarded in error'** and HbA1c results are **not** available for those discarded samples.

We made immediate changes to prevent this error reoccurring. Please extend our apologies to the patients who were affected by this incident.

Sent on behalf of:  
Dr Kevin Stuart  
Clinical Lead for Blood Sciences  
Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust