

Ref. No: 0238  
Date: 07/09/23  
Subject: Blood Tests

## REQUEST

Under the *Freedom of Information Act*, I would like to request the following information for the period 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 whichever data is available easily:

1. Name of your hospital or list of hospitals under your single NHS Trust.
2. How many beds does your hospital or each hospital in your group have?
3. What hospitals (names) does your laboratory serve?
4. How many (~) blood tubes arrive in the lab (pathology specimen reception or SRA) for a 12-month period?
5. How many (~) blood tests does your pathology specimen reception handle during a 12-month period?
6. How many patients does this represent?
7. What % of the blood tubes that arrive in the SRA (specimen reception) need to be re-labelled with a bar coded label?
8. What % of tubes that arrive direct from primary care need to be re-labelled to pass through the analyser?
9. What % of tubes that arrive from secondary care requests need to be re-labelled to pass through the analyser?
10. What is the split between blood tests that arrive from primary care and what proportion from hospital care?
11. For hospital patients what proportion of blood tests are from inpatients (X%) and what proportion are from outpatients?

**12. For primary care patients: What is the split between blood tests taken in primary care (%), hospital phlebotomy (%), CDC phlebotomy (%) or other (%)?**

## RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

**1. Name of your hospital or list of hospitals under your single NHS Trust.**

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

**2. How many beds does your hospital or each hospital in your group have?**

1,520

**3. What hospitals (names) does your laboratory serve?**

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

**4. How many (~) blood tubes arrive in the lab (pathology specimen reception or SRA) for a 12-month period?**

Requests: 2,311,312

**5. How many (~) blood tests does your pathology specimen reception handle during a 12-month period?**

Tests: 5,905,155

**6. How many patients does this represent?**

Approximately 700,000 patients across 5 places, St Helens, Halton, Knowsley, Southport & Formby, and West Lancashire.

**7. What % of the blood tubes that arrive in the SRA (specimen reception) need to be re-labelled with a bar coded label?**

14%

**8. What % of tubes that arrive direct from primary care need to be re-labelled to pass through the analyser?**

29%

**9. What % of tubes that arrive from secondary care requests need to be re-labelled to pass through the analyser?**

0%

**10. What is the split between blood tests that arrive from primary care and what proportion from hospital care?**

Acute Trust 52% / Primary Care 48%

**11. For hospital patients what proportion of blood tests are from inpatients (X%) and what proportion are from outpatients?**

Inpatient 61% / Outpatient 39%

**12. For primary care patients: What is the split between blood tests taken in primary care (%), hospital phlebotomy (%), CDC phlebotomy (%) or other (%)?**

Hospital Phlebotomy 51% / Primary Care 48.4% / CDC 0.6% / Other 0%