SUMMARY OF UPDATES TO THE LABORATORY USER MANUAL OF THE UL HOSPITALS

| **Date** | **Section Updated** | **Edition No.:**  | **Changes Made** |
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| 07/10/2015 | Introduction | 06 | 1. Include references to the Laboratories at Ennis and Nenagh Hospitals with contact details and hours of operation.
2. Include the following statement regarding laboratory accreditation status: “The scope of accreditation can be accessed on the INAB website www.inab.ie. Reference 303MT for the Pathology Laboratories and Reference 209MT for Blood Transfusion."
3. Update contact personnel.
4. Add the following to Reporting of Results Section: "Critical results are communicated as a verbal report either by telephone or fax to the clinical team or authorised health care professional. Critical results are defined in individual laboratory test repertoire sections."
5. In Histology Scope, clarify Breast Pathology service.
6. Update the Pathology Policy on Request Form Completion and Specimen labelling in the acute setting.
7. Include out of hours arrangements for the Mortuary
8. Include a section on ordering supplies Ennis Hospital and transport of specimens to Ennis hospital.
9. Mauve EDTA Tube – Remove reference to DNA Studied and amend HLA Typing from 4 to 2 specimens.
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| 09/10/2015 | Haematology | 06 | 1. Update Chief Medical Scientist details
2. Erythropoietin (EPO) referrals transferred from Belfast to Haematology, St James Hospital Dublin
3. B12, folate and Ferritin Reference ranges changed to - Reference ranges are available on test reports.
4. Update Turnaround Times for GP FBCs
5. Update ESR reference ranges to Reference range: See report form.
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| 07/10/2015 | Histology | 04 | 1. Pathologist in Administrative Charge 2015/2016: Dr. Olu Ipadeola
2. Removed reference to Cahercalla Hospital
3. Small Specimens: 120ml yellow-topped container replaced 120ml red-topped container
4. Specimen collection, handling & storage: Sample should be completely immersed in formalin.
5. Cytology: added heading Special Precautions
6. Forensic Post Mortems: change Mid-Western Pathology to UL Hospitals Pathology
7. Add in section on defining critical alerts
8. Referral Tests: change skin for Immunofluorescence from Galway University Hospital to St James Hospital
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| 07/10/2015 | Microbiology | 06 | 1. GUM sample guidelines updated
2. Ova Cysts and Parasite testing (OCP) sample turnaround time amended.
3. Wound swab turnaround time amended
4. Eye culture - turnaround time amended and change in policy- grams only now performed on neonatal samples if requested.
5. Information updated on infection control policies with regard to MRSA
6. Chronic wounds policy updated
7. Culture of epidural tips no longer performed – samples will be rejected
8. Culture of mouth swabs – change in policy- gram stain will only be performed if clinical details are provided. These clinical details have been listed.
9. Blood culture sampling procedure has been updated
10. TB sampling procedure had been amended.
11. Faeces samples: Addition of separate section on Ova Cysts and Parasite testing (OCP).
12. And the procedure for referral of samples for H.pylori has been added.
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| 05/10/2015 | Serology | 06 | 1. Influenza RNA testing section has been updated to reflexct introduction of a local testing service at UHL in October 2015.
2. An Appendix has been added to the User Manual with details on collection of nasopharyngeal swabs (NPS) for the investigation of Influenza / RSV and other respiratory viruses.
3. CRP test has been removed from the Serology section of the User Manual. This test transferred to the Biochemistry Laboratory, UHL in May 2015.
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