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22nd July 2022

Re: Restarting and Consolidation of the Mycology Service

Dear Colleagues,

We are writing to officially give notice that the Community Mycology Testing Service will be restarting on the 1st August 2022. The service will restart with some changes to the acceptance criteria for testing, and these have been mapped in to the Sunquest ICE system so you will see some changes when you come to make a request for a Mycology sample on ICE. Please see below for a summary of the changes:

- All skin and hair samples will be processed
- All specimens from children (16yrs old or younger) will be processed
- Nail specimens will only be processed if:
 - There has been empirical treatment failure, if so please state the treatment given
 - Infection arising after foreign travel, if so please state country/place of foreign travel
 - Unusual animal or environmental expose, if so please state what the exposure has been
 - Patient is immunosuppressed, if so please state why

Please ensure all relevant clinical details are given on ICE or if using a paper request form, otherwise your request may be rejected. For further information on specimens and management, please refer to the recently updated Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee guidance for "Dermatophyte Infection of the proximal fingernail or toenail" [43-d-fingertoe-ivvwr.pdf \(nottsapc.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nottsapc.nhs.uk/43-d-fingertoe-ivvwr.pdf).

In line with Pathology partnership working between NUH and SFH, the Mycology Service will be consolidated at the Department of Clinical Microbiology, King's Mill Hospital. Specimens should still be sent to the laboratory that you currently send specimens to now and the laboratories themselves will handle transportation between the two sites.

The I.T. links will automate request and result transmission between the two laboratories and reports will be issued in the usual way.

If you have any further questions, comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact your local laboratory. Thank you for your continued support and patience during this period of time when the Mycology Service has been suspended.

Yours Sincerely



Andy Coultas

SFH Microbiology Service Manager



Rebecca Walker

NUH Microbiology Service Manager