

- Use **Test profiles** on ICE to prevent over/under requesting and reduce need for add-ons/repeat phlebotomy. To add a test to an existing sample see here [Add-ons](#)
- ICE prompts will identify previous requests and results if repeat requests made too soon. Check ICE for hospital results to avoid repeating tests in primary care – see [ICE Open Net](#)
- If repeating and abnormal **test**, specify the **test** to repeat rather than **repeating** the whole request. Generate a new order on ICE, old orders cannot be re-used/edited.
See [ICE user guide](#) and [Editing orders on ICE](#)
- Provide clinical details on the request as this can help the laboratory add interpretative comments, further investigations and ensure appropriate testing. See [Tests add by the laboratory](#) for when the laboratory will add further tests
- Repeat HBA1c to diagnose diabetes **if patient asymptomatic** can be taken within 2 weeks but the two samples do not **have** to be within 2 weeks, see [HBA1c to diagnose diabetes](#).
No need to repeat HBA1c within 3 months if monitoring diabetes.
- Take a clear history or seek specialist advice before requesting large numbers of specific IgE tests for suspected allergy. See [Allergy guide](#) for more details
- Suspect pseudohyperkalaemia if no change in medication/renal function and if sample delayed in reaching lab. See [Hyperkalaemia guidelines](#) and consider getting a centrifuge for your surgery to reduce admissions/repeat phlebotomy for pseudohyperkalaemia.

See [Centrifugation tips](#) and to enquire about obtaining a centrifuge for your surgery, please contact Carl Burkinshaw 01723 342028 carl.burkinshaw@york.nhs.uk

- Patients being started on Vitamin D supplementation do not need repeat Vitamin D test within 3-6 months. Please see [Vitamin D guidelines](#) for when to test and how to treat.
- Make use of information on Lab Medicine website:

Contact details [Contacting the lab](#)

Test information/Sample requirements [Test directory](#)

Interpretation guides [biochemistry guidance](#) [microbiology guidance](#)