

Blood Test process at Leckhampton surgery - updated September 2024

Background

Since July 2020, Leckhampton Surgery has not been contracted to conduct hospital blood tests. Patients were required to visit hospital departments for all hospital requested tests.

Update

From September 2024, Leckhampton Surgery has resumed hospital blood tests for patients, enhancing convenience for our patients. This does not affect primary care blood tests, which must be booked separately. You can find these appointments online. The difference is explained below:

From September 2024 patients **WHO CAN HAVE BLOOD TESTS** in the surgery are the following:

- **Patients (12+ years)** with a GP-requested **White A4 form**. No physical form is needed; book "Blood test (GP requested only NOT HOSPITAL)" online.
- **Patients (12+ years)** with a hospital-issued **Red/Green/White A5 form**. Must have the form; book "Hospital blood test (HOSPITAL forms only NOT GP)" online.
- **Patients with out-of-county NHS care** (e.g., London), who must present a form from their treating NHS trust.



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Examples of patients **WHO CANNOT HAVE BLOOD TESTS** here:

- **Children under 6 years:** Self refer to paediatric outpatients (no change). <https://bit.ly/3AKYXPC>
- **Children 6-11 years of age** - Attend West block outpatients phlebotomy, no appointment needed (no change). <https://bit.ly/4dIxKvy>
- **Patients without a required hospital form.**
- **Patients seeing private consultants:** Tests must be done within the private setting.

Other circumstances

- **Housebound patients:** No change to district nursing blood services.
- **Difficult blood draws:** We will usually try twice to obtain your blood. Sometimes this is very difficult and we are really sorry if we can't obtain it. If this happens you may be referred to the hospital service at West block outpatients, who will try again.
- **Complex pathology tests:** that need immediate processing in the lab. This type of test would be a very rare event, your doctor will inform you if your test specifies it can only be taken in hospital.
- **Private blood tests:** Not provided.

Please work with us by booking the correct type of appointment, and having any hospital forms to hand before booking.

FAQs:

- **Appointment Types:**
 - "Hospital blood test (HOSPITAL forms only NOT GP)" for hospital requests.
 - "Blood test (GP requested only NOT HOSPITAL)" for GP requests.
- **Running Out of Appointments for Hospital Bloods:** Do not book the wrong type; visit West Block outpatients instead.
- **GP Forms:** No need for a physical form; it's electronic.
- **Hospital Test Location:** You can choose the surgery or the hospital.
- **Can I book a blood test if I have not spoken to a GP? I would like a specific test taken.** No, all tests must be authorised by a GP, arranged via the long term condition monitoring process, or be a standing authorisation noted on your record.
- **Do you take tests for private consultants or private GPs?** No, we do not convert any private practice test requests to NHS tests.
- **My hospital in London/Oxford/Bristol is paperless. They say they can't give me a blood form for my tests. What do I do?** Please ask your consultant's secretary to request blood forms from Gloucestershire pathology department. They then complete these and post them to you. We appreciate this is not a smooth process.