

# Screening for bloodborne viruses (Emergency Department)

Emergency Medicine  
Information for Patients

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## Why are these illnesses being tested for?

- People suffer from HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C (bloodborne viruses) because they are diagnosed too late.
- We want to stop this happening by finding people with these illnesses and helping them get treatment.
- It is worth getting treatment for these illnesses because:
  - HIV treatment can be very successful. In some cases it can be successful enough to avoid many of the health problems that come with having HIV and also stop it being passed from person to person.
  - Hepatitis C is curable using medications.
  - If Hepatitis B is found quickly then any problems it causes can be found earlier and managed better.

## Does everyone who comes to the Emergency department get these tests?

No. You will only have these tests if you are having blood tests done to look into the problem that has brought to the hospital today.

## How long does it take to get the results?

We aim for these tests to be done within 3 days of being taken. We would expect you to get news of a positive result within a week of the tests being taken. This is not a guarantee.

We will not contact you if you have a negative result. No news is good news.

**Health information and support is available at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)  
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit [www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk) for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals  
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact [InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)

## Who will give me the results if they are positive?

A professional trained in giving this kind of news will contact you. They work for the Infectious Diseases team.

## Are results confidential?

Yes, the results are confidential.

## What if I do not want to have the tests?

You just need to tell the staff member taking your blood test. The staff member may ask you why you do not want the tests taken. This is only for us to learn why people do not want the tests. It is not a judgement of your choice.

## Can these tests be done elsewhere?

### Hepatitis B

Contact your GP and ask for a test

### Hepatitis C

You can order a testing kit to your home using <https://hepctest.nhs.uk>

You can also visit your GP and ask for a test

### HIV

You can order an HIV testing kit to your home using <https://leicestersexualhealth.nhs.uk/online-testing-kit#>

You can also see your GP and ask for a test

**For more information:** <https://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/aboutus/our-news/press-release-centre/2024/life-saving-testing-for-hiv-hepatitis-b-and-c-rolls-out-in-leicesters-hospitals-emergency-department/>

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔  
على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل  
જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।  
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