

Paper-Lite Project 2023

South West Pathology are going 'Paper-Lite'

Tel: 01823 346700

Email: spsadmin@somersetft.nhs.uk

Web: www.synlab.co.uk

August 2023

To all our service users,

Southwest Pathology are going Paper-Lite, this means removal of order comms forms and plastic bags for blood samples only.

Introducing rack-based sample transfer, SPS are able to dramatically reduce the amount of waste, whilst still ensuring that sample transfer is safe, in line with regulations UN3373. This requires no extra work from our service users.

Our new process will be rolled out from 4th September, over a 3 month period to ensure a smooth transition.

The initial phase will incorporate surgeries on the Yeovil, PHL and Wells transport routes.

- SPS will provide all service users with a supply of racks and plastic bags with absorbent pads. As we go live – couriers will then replace full racks with empty as they make their collections.
- This will apply to any vacutainer based blood sample, which has been electronically requested and labelled.
- Racks do not need to be full. Please ensure racks are placed within plastic bags before collection from the courier. **Couriers will not collect racks that have not been placed within bags, as this will delay the transport process.**
- Vacutainers are designed to limit risk of leakage, providing lids are secure and racks are placed within the larger bag provided, with absorbent pad in place. The process conforms to UN3373.
- If any additional information needs to be provided such as add-ons, attach this to the sample or email GPPathologyAddon@somersetFT.nhs.uk
- For any queries please contact SPSAdmin@Somerset.nhs.uk or call 01823 346700