

**Reference:** FOI.ICB-2324/442

**Subject:** Heart Failure Diagnostic Test Provision in Community Diagnostic Hubs

*I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:*

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>I would like you to provide this information in the following format:</p> <p>In an Excel spreadsheet with information broken down by each CDC in your area</p>	
<p><b>Availability of NT-proBNP testing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many Community Diagnostic Centres are currently operational in your area?</li> <li>• Is NT-proBNP testing for suspected heart failure currently available within local Community Diagnostic Centres? (please specify if any local Community Diagnostic Centres do not offer NT-proBNP testing)</li> <li>• If NT-proBNP testing for suspected heart failure is not currently available, are there any plans to introduce it in future?</li> </ul>	<p>There are currently no fixed sites open in the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) ICB area. There are plans for these to be in Weston and Cribbs Causeway.</p> <p>We advise you to contact the Acute Trusts for further information as the contract holders for Community Diagnostic Centres:</p> <p>UHBW (University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust): <a href="https://www.uhbw.nhs.uk/p/how-we-use-your-data/freedom-of-information-foi-requests">https://www.uhbw.nhs.uk/p/how-we-use-your-data/freedom-of-information-foi-requests</a></p>
<p><b>Testing Volume</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many NT-proBNP blood tests have been performed by the local Community Diagnostic Centre between January 2021 to August 2023?</li> </ul>	<p>NBT (North Bristol NHS Trust): <a href="https://www.nbt.nhs.uk/about-us/information-governance/freedom-information/request-information">https://www.nbt.nhs.uk/about-us/information-governance/freedom-information/request-information</a></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many BNP blood tests have been performed by the local Community Diagnostic Centre between January 2021 to August 2023?</li> <li>• How many patients with a suspected diagnosis of heart failure have accessed the local Community Diagnostic Centre between January 2021 to August 2023?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Guidelines</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What guidelines are in place for the local Community Diagnostic Centre to follow in relation to administering BNP and or NT-proBNP tests for patients with a suspected diagnosis of heart failure?</li> <li>• What referral pathways should be followed by the local Community Diagnostic Centre in relation to patients with a suspected diagnosis of heart failure?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Targets/metrics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What assessment has the local Community Diagnostic Centre made of local population need and the likely demand for BNP and/or NT-proBNP testing for patients with a suspected diagnosis of heart failure?</li> <li>• Based on local demographics, what assessment has the local Community Diagnostic Centre made of the number of patients with a suspected diagnosis of heart failure that should be seen by the centre on an annual basis?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Scaling up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What assessment has the local Community Diagnostic Centre made of the need to increase access to BNP and/or NT-</li> </ul>	

<p>proBNP testing – including projections of growing need and increases in the number of people at risk of heart failure?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What assessment has been made of the barriers that may impact the ability of local Community Diagnostic Centres to meet future demands for access to BNP and/or NT-proBNP testing?</li><li>• What assessment has been made of additional resources required by local Community Diagnostic Centres to meet rising demand for BNP and/or NT-proBNP testing over the next 12 months; 18 months; and 5 years?</li><li>• What resource has been allocated to local Community Diagnostic Centres for the acquirement of point of care testing capabilities and administration of BNP and/or NT-proBNP tests?</li></ul>	
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***The information provided in this response is accurate as of 15 February 2024 and has been approved for release by Caroline Dawe, Deputy Director of Performance and Delivery for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.***