

Dear Colleague,

28/08/2025

Update on IA2 and ZNT8 antibody testing (samples now referred to Exeter for testing)

Further to our previous correspondence dated 25th July, where we notified users of the suspension of IA2 and ZNT8 antibody testing in Edinburgh, we have since redirected our requests directly to Exeter.

To send IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies to Exeter, our lab IT system required updates, including a new Exeter-specific diabetic antibody test. As of the 27th August we now have an electronic link with Exeter that will enable their IA2 and ZNT8 antibody results to link directly to our local laboratory system. Going forward this will greatly improve the turnaround time for these tests.

The table below notes the reference ranges for IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies as per Exeter:

		Reference range ***EXETER***
IA-2 antibodies (U/mL)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <7.5 = Negative. Note all negative result reported as NEGATIVE • ≥7.5 = Positive <p>* ONLY positive results reported quantitatively</p>
ZnT8 antibodies (U/mL)	Age <30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 65 = Negative. Note all negative result reported as NEGATIVE • ≥65 = Positive <p>* ONLY positive results reported quantitatively</p>
ZnT8 antibodies (U/mL)	Age ≥ 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 10 = Negative. Note all negative result reported as NEGATIVE • ≥10 = Positive <p>* ONLY positive results reported quantitatively</p>

The key difference is that if a result is negative Exeter report it as negative and if a result is positive Exeter provide a numerical result. Unfortunately, due to the limitations of our local IT system, it is not possible for the reference range to display next to the results. This means that users should also note that it is therefore not possible for alert flags to appear next to abnormal results. However, all reference ranges will be clearly indicated as comments within the report.

There is no change to the process of requesting diabetic antibodies; please request as per your normal process on TrackCare. As before IA2 and ZNT8 antibody results will be available for review via TrackCare and Clinical Portal but please note that these will now be reported using an Exeter specific test code and not our previous IA-2 and ZNT8 test codes which will ultimately be disabled.

As always, we continue to perform the GAD antibodies locally (within our Glasgow lab) and there are no changes to the test code or reference range for this assay.

We have been informed by Edinburgh that all samples sent to them between April to July 2025 have now been sent to Exeter for testing. The results for these samples will come back to us via Edinburgh. We do not have control over the turnaround time of these samples; however, once we receive results from Edinburgh, we will report them to our service users promptly.

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For any enquires regarding diabetic antibodies please continue to contact the Duty Immunologist either by email (ggc.immunology.labs@nhs.uk) or by telephone (0141 347 8872 or internal extension 68872).

We would be grateful if you could share this letter with colleagues and contact us if you have any further questions.

Best wishes,



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