

Routine blood-borne virus (BBV) testing in emergency departments

What's happening?

If you're aged 16 or older* and are having a blood test in the emergency department, it's likely that you will be tested for the following blood-borne viruses as part of the opt-out BBV testing programme taking place in some emergency departments across Scotland:

- HIV
- hepatitis B
- hepatitis C

* aged 16 to 69 in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Why?

- You can have a virus and have no symptoms.
- There are free life-saving treatments available on the NHS.
- Knowing if you have a blood-borne virus **helps protect you and others.**

Will everyone be tested?

We aim to test everyone who is having blood taken in the emergency department unless you choose to opt out or have had your blood tested in this emergency department recently.

What if I do not want to be tested?

Tell the person taking your blood that you do not want these specific tests to be done. This will not affect the care you receive from us.

What happens after my blood is taken?

Please make sure we have your contact details. Results can take up to 2 weeks. You will only be contacted by a specialist if you need further follow-up or testing.

To find out more, please visit nhsinform.scot/bbv-ed-optout

Translations and other formats are available on request at:

@ phs.otherformats@phs.scot

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