

Date: 20th August 2026

Important reminder when sending samples through the Path Lab POD system

Colleagues are reminded to follow the correct process when sending patient samples to the Path Lab using the POD system.

Estates has responded to several recent incidents where samples have been sent through the system without being placed inside a dedicated POD. This has caused blockages, system failures and samples being deposited within the roof space above the Path Lab, resulting in significant repair costs.



Importantly, incorrect use can also affect patient safety, particularly where urgent samples are delayed in reaching the laboratory for processing.

Please ensure all samples are placed securely inside the correct dedicated POD before being sent.

Senior managers and ward teams are asked to remind relevant colleagues of the correct process to help prevent further failures and ensure samples reach the laboratory safely and promptly.