

4 July 2022

Dear Colleagues

- On 4 April NHS Lothian transferred their Chlamydia/Gonococcus PCR to the Abbott Alinity platform and this replaced the current service on the Abbott M2000 platform.
- On review of the data assay performance on positive samples is very good, with 100% agreement with positives samples that are positive with Ct value 33 and below. Weak positives are still being repeated for GC until there is more data.
- However, there is now a higher failure rate for the assay it was , 0.5% and now we are seeing this up to 4%. This seems to be across all specimen types and not just on rectal swabs that previously were more likely to be inhibitory. We are working closely with the company Abbott Molecular to understand the reason for this change in performance but no solution has been found as yet.
- This means that more patients are requiring repeat swabs as there is no result obtained on the first swab.
- We apologise for this and are working on a number of solutions to resolve this situation and reduce the failure rate back to the previous service provision.

Kind regards
Yours faithfully
Kate Templeton
Head Of Molecular Diagnostics.

