

Transforming pathology services

Update for colleagues and service users



April 2021

Introduction

Welcome to the second edition of our transformation newsletter, which aims to provide colleagues with the latest updates, news and information about the programme to transform pathology services across South East London over the next four years.

In this issue you will discover:

- [A video with Chief Operating Officer Tracy Ellison](#)
- [How a hub and spoke pathology network works](#)
- [Our new clinical lead structure](#)
- [An update on the transfer of pathology colleagues from King's College Hospital](#)
- [Partnership branding arrangements](#)

If you have an idea about a story you would like to see featured in this newsletter, please email LetsTalk@viapath.org

Name this newsletter

Thank you to everyone who submitted their ideas for a name for this newsletter. Here's a shortlist so you can vote for your favourite:

- **Better Together Newsletter**
- **In SYNc**
- **Path-Ways**
- **Synchronicity**
- **TPS News (Transforming Pathology Services)**

The person who suggested the winning name will receive a **£30 Amazon voucher**.

Interview with Viapath's new COO

With more than 35 years of experience in pathology and laboratory medicine across the NHS and commercial sector, new Viapath Chief Operating Officer **Tracy Ellison** is perfectly placed to play a lead role in the transformation of local pathology services.

In this short video, Tracy tells us more about her passion for science, reveals her excitement about the 'once-in-a-lifetime' challenge of creating the largest integrated pathology network in the UK, and outlines how much she is looking forward to working collaboratively with colleagues from across SYNLAB, Viapath and the NHS in the coming months and years



Can't view this video? Try [clicking here](#)

Understanding hub and spoke pathology networks



At the centre of our vision to transform pathology services in South East London is the implementation of a hub and spoke pathology network.

SYNLAB has already successfully designed and implemented [two well-established hub and spoke NHS partnerships](#), which combine clinical excellence with the very best in industry innovation, transformation and technology. Both partnerships have delivered major benefits for patients, clinicians and the NHS, as well as scientists and other colleagues working within pathology services.

Below is a link to a useful booklet that will help you understand more about SYNLAB's approach to hub and spoke pathology networks. An animated video will be coming soon to describe in more detail how things will work in South East London

[Download the PDF booklet](#)

Ensuring clinically-led pathology services



As SYNLAB begins its pathology partnership with the NHS, a new clinical structure has been designed to ensure that pathology services are truly clinically led. Building on Viapath's existing good practice, this new approach is designed to maximise joined-up working across sites under a hub and spoke model.

The new structure will be based around the partnership's clinical functions rather than by location. This involves replacing the site leads for Guy's and St Thomas', King's College and Princess Royal University hospitals with seven Strategic Clinical Leads for each of the core groups: Tissue Sciences, Genomics, Haematology, Primary Care and Community Services, Clinical Chemistry and Immunology, Infection Sciences, and Research & Development and Innovation.

[Click here to read more](#)

New colleagues set to join us



We will soon be welcoming around 70 new colleagues who will join Viapath on 1 May 2021, transferring from King's College Hospital Foundation Trust's Ultra Specialist Services (USS).

The USS laboratories did not fall within scope when King's College Hospital joined the former pathology arrangement in 2010. They are made up of the Department of Clinical Neuropathology, Liver Pathology (encompassing Clinical Biochemistry, Virology, Histopathology Services and Liver Molecular Genetics) and the Laboratory for Molecular Haemato-oncology (LMH).

More information will follow soon, but in the meantime please look out for new colleagues if you work at King's College Hospital. Let's do everything we can to make them feel welcome.

Branding update

Work is well underway on the development of our new brand, with some colleagues attending last week's focus groups and more opportunities in the pipeline for you to get involved. How we present ourselves in the lead-up to our new brand being available in the autumn is something we've been asked about recently, so we're pleased to share that an interim logo adjustment which features NHS and SYNLAB elements has been created and is now available.

There is no need to replace every Viapath logo with the new version - just use it where you feel it is appropriate to give a joined-up message. [Click here](#) and scroll down to the Viapath and SYNLAB co-branded logos folder.

Develop your career here



Many new career opportunities are being created as we embark on the pathology services transformation journey. Applications can be made through the SYNLAB UK & Ireland website at www.synlab.co.uk/careers/current-opportunities/

Among the new posts being advertised are:

- LIMS Analyst
- Integration Developer

Viapath colleagues, please notify your line manager and the Recruitment team if you plan to apply by emailing synlab-recruitment@viapath.org

[View job opportunities](#)