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Dear Colleague,

Re: Decommissioning of the Hevylite heavy/light chain assay from 1 October 2026

We are writing to inform you that Oxford University Hospitals Laboratory Immunology will be decommissioning its Hevylite assay service **with effect from 1 October 2026**.

This decision has been made for two principal reasons.

Firstly, we have experienced longstanding difficulties with the reliability and consistency of reagent supply for the Hevylite assay. These issues have become progressively more challenging to manage and make continued provision of a reliable and sustainable service increasingly difficult.

Secondly, Oxford now has the EXENT mass spectrometry system installed and available for the investigation and monitoring of monoclonal proteins. EXENT is able to provide the core information previously obtained through Hevylite assay analysis, while offering greater analytical resolution and improved characterisation of monoclonal proteins.

We will therefore transition testing from Hevylite to EXENT. **From 1 October 2026, requests that would previously have been referred to Oxford for Hevylite analysis will instead be directed to EXENT testing where appropriate.**

The charge for EXENT testing will be **£145 per test**.

We believe that this change will provide a more robust and sustainable service while also improving the analytical information available for the investigation and monitoring of patients with monoclonal gammopathies.

If you have any questions regarding this change, we would be very happy to discuss these with you.

Thank you for your continued use of the Oxford Laboratory Immunology service.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Ross Sadler PhD FRCPATH
Consultant Clinical Scientist
Clinical Lead for Laboratory Immunology