

FOI 2950

13<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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**Question 1. Can you send to me any guidelines or guidance utilised for Health Care Professionals on completing lipid tests?**

**Response:**

See attached guidelines.

**Question 2. Are lipid tests fasted or non-fasted in Primary Care and in Secondary Care as standard?**

**Response:**

Non-fasting is standard for initial testing (both for Primary and Secondary Care).

**Question 3. Can all clinicians see Triglyceride results when lipid tests are completed?**

**Response:**

Completed results are available on Labs system and NIECR for viewing by any authorised clinician. Triglyceride results are part of the standard lipid profile so always available for clinician to see.

**Question 4. What calculation is used within Southern Trust (in Primary Care and Secondary Care) when creating a triglyceride result - Samson or Friedwald?**

**Response:**

NI region is currently using the Friedwald calculation but is planning to move to the Samson equation in the near future.

**Question 5. Does the guidance on completing lipid test match the NICE/SMC advice for prescribing of all medications accepted for use in managed entry? I.e. if the NICE/SMC advice is for a "fasted test" but common practice or local**

**guidance states "non-fasting" tests to be completed - how do patients access these medications? Will such medications be reimbursed or will a second fasted test need to be done?**

**Response:**

Please see attached guidelines. A fasting test will need to be completed for some newer drugs

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