

**Template letter to CCG in response to requests to follow up investigations performed in other settings and diagnostic test results following a patient's discharge from hospital**

Dear X,

**FOLLOW UP OF DIAGNOSTIC TEST RESULTS FOLLOWING A PATIENT'S DISCHARGE FROM HOSPITAL**

We are writing to inform you that we (delete option as appropriate)

- a) have received a copy investigation result from the **X** Department of Hospital **Y**, without confirmation of it being actioned by the requesting hospital clinician.
- b) have been requested to chase up a result of an investigation requested by a hospital clinician

A copy of the above is attached.

In keeping with published NHS England [guidance](#) setting out *Standards for the communication of patient diagnostic test results on discharge from hospital*, **“the clinician who orders the test is responsible for reviewing, acting and communicating the result and actions taken to the General Practitioner and patient even if the patient has been discharged.”** This is also in keeping with BMA [joint guidance](#) between the BMA general practitioners committee and consultants committee

We therefore request that as the commissioner you require that hospitals adhere to this important standard, and to require that hospital initiated investigations are reviewed and acted on by the requesting clinician or relevant hospital department. Additionally, we request that you stop sending copies of test results to local GP practices, unless specifically for clinical information in which case they should be clearly marked **“for information only”**.

With many thanks

cc. Local medical committee