

Case Study The Aldershot Centre for Health

Point Of Care Testing at UK's largest 'polyclinic'

The ABX Pentra 60C+ delivers vein to brain results within 8 minutes. Having clearly demonstrated the advantages to the patient of delivering vital blood test results into clinicians' hands within 8 minutes of venepuncture, the Point of Care (POC) team at Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has now set up a 'satellite lab' in a primary care setting. Outpatients' clinics and GPs alike at the brand new Aldershot Centre for Health can now utilise a highly compact haematology analyser with 5-part cytochemical differential, the ABX Pentra 60C+, to ensure that their patients receive the best possible care.

"By placing the ABX Pentra 60C+ in this exceptional primary care setting we are seeking to ensure that we continue to lead the way in the delivery of POC testing to ensure excellence in patient care."

Lynda Petley,
Point of Care Manager,
Frimley Park Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

Opened in August 2008, The Aldershot Centre for Health is the largest primary healthcare centre in the UK, occupying an area the size of two Wembley football pitches! It brings together primary healthcare services and NHS primary medical services to the local population of Aldershot. This cutting edge 'polyclinic' is now delivering a variety of services including three GP practices, dental services, clinicians, counsellors, community nurses, doctors and a pharmacy.

"By placing the ABX Pentra 60C+ in this exceptional primary care setting we are seeking to ensure that we continue to lead the way in the delivery of POC testing to ensure excellence in patient care," explained Lynda Petley, Point of Care Manager at this progressive Trust. This is the latest area to be developed and administered by the Frimley Park POC team to greatly benefit from rapid access to patient blood test results. "Having established an excellent blue print for haematology POC testing in a variety of hospital settings, we are delighted that this facility has seamlessly transferred to a primary care environment. This will result in a considerable reduction in patient waiting times improving the patient experience."

Fully validated haematology results are now available from the ABX Pentra 60C+ in just 8 minutes of a whole blood sample being taken from a patient within the phlebotomy suite at the Aldershot Centre for Health. "Having fast track results is extremely beneficial to patients in terms of their overall journey," continued Lynda Petley. "Return visits are minimised when diagnostics are available as a one stop service. This is far more convenient for the patient who has to organise time off work and car parking for each appointment. Fewer visitors to the facility is also good news for infection control."



Operated routinely by fully trained Medical Technology Officers (MTOs) the ABX Pentra 60C+ delivers laboratory quality haematology results instantaneously

"The availability of rapid diagnostic tests near the patient is crucial in supporting the movement of services from secondary to primary care. The Point of Care services we provide give a flexible and adaptable approach to meeting our users' needs. The ABX Pentra 60C+ is part of this approach," said Dr Ian Fry, Director of Pathology, Partnership Pathology Services, a joint venture between Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Trust.

The ABX Pentra 60C+ is a highly compact benchtop haematology analyser from HORIBA ABX with outstanding technical capabilities providing consistently good quality and accurate results which are essential for POC situations. As the only compact POC haematology system to uniquely offer a 5-part cytochemical differential for white blood cells, the ABX Pentra 60C+ is also ideal for analysis in Oncology and

is particularly useful for monitoring patients receiving chemotherapy for malignant diseases.

"We are delighted that the installation of the ABX Pentra 60C+ adjacent to the phlebotomy suite at this cutting edge primary healthcare centre can enhance the quality of service delivered to patients and has become an integral part of improved healthcare by providing laboratory quality results in a POC setting," said Vanessa Chomyn of HORIBA ABX.

There are six ABX Pentra 60C+ analysers in action around Frimley Park and the Royal Surrey Hospitals, including one in A&E. All are interfaced with the respective laboratory information system (LIS), so results are available 'on screen' throughout each hospital. The introduction of haematology POC areas has certainly raised overall awareness of the benefits of bringing testing closer to the patient in the hospital, and now even to the patient in a GP's surgery.

Analysis **Anywhere**

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