

CROSS KEYS SURGERY

HOW TO GET YOUR TEST RESULTS

This leaflet will explain:

The system for obtaining test results

Why we have this system

How it will help you

The System

Patients need to telephone the surgery for their test results or sign up for online access to notes. This can be done by requesting a form at reception and identification is required.

Blood test results are normally received after 5-7 days; however certain blood tests, for example, glandular fever, may take longer. Your GP will be able to advise you during your consultation how long it will be before your test results are received.

Urine samples are tested by dipstick by a practice nurse at the surgery. The test will only be sent to the hospital if the dipstick is positive. The results are normally received 5 – 10 days later.

Swabs, toenail clippings, skin scrapings and stool sample tests can take up to 4 weeks, this allows time to grow any bacteria present. In some circumstances this can take up to 6 weeks.

Helicobacter results are normally sent straight to patient in writing.

Spirometry, 24 hour blood pressure and ECG test results are normally available within 10 – 14 days.

Cervical Smear results will be sent directly to the patient in writing by Thames Valley Primary Care Agency within 14 days of the smear test being taken. If the results are inconclusive or abnormal the letter will detail what will happen next.

Scan and X-ray results. The doctors need sufficient time to review and record the results in your medical notes, normally available within 7-10 days.

Why we have the system

A wide variety of tests are carried out on our patients both in the surgery and in other healthcare organisations. Different tests require different diagnostic procedures and therefore take varying lengths of time to come back to us.

It is important that where possible the Doctor who instigated the test interprets your results in order to plan your care accordingly.

How it will help you.

We hope this leaflet helps patients to understand the system we have in place for obtaining test results at The Cross Keys Surgery.

It is also important for patients to understand why some test results take longer than others to help alleviate their concerns and fears.