



**Belfast Health and  
Social Care Trust**

caring supporting improving together

**Haemophilia & Thrombosis Centre**

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**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

MR EDWARD CONWAY

GRO-C

**Miscellaneous Letter**

Dear MR EDWARD CONWAY

Following on from your recent clinic visit, I wanted to write to explain what had happened to the blood tests. After an investigation into the cause for why we didn't have the results of your Liver Function tests (LFTs), the simple problem was that we didn't make the request for the sample to have these tests made, and this was because of differences in the way samples are processed at different hospitals.

In Belfast, one request is made which includes Kidney and Liver function tests, whereas at the Altnagelvin Hospital, the tests need to be requested separately. As a result, we have Kidney Function tests but not the Liver Function tests from your recent visit. Retraining has now taken place in order to prevent this from happening again.

I hope you take some reassurance from our approach to this issue, but I would like to apologise once again on behalf of all of us for the inconvenience of needing to have another blood test.

Probably the easiest way to have the relevant Liver tests carried out would be via your GP – my advice is to call them to make an appointment at a convenient time in the next couple of weeks. I can let them know what is required.

One thing this has highlighted to me is about the follow up for your Liver – whilst we do arrange some of the Liver tests, the Haemophilia Clinic is not a substitute for the Liver Clinic because we don't have the same level of expertise in this area of medicine.

As you know, there has been some damage to the Liver as a result of the Hepatitis, which was successfully treated back in 2019. The Liver damage is a form of scarring, called Cirrhosis. Whilst the Liver is performing its functions well at the moment, people with Cirrhosis are strongly recommended to have follow up with a Liver Specialist, who will arrange regular scans of the Liver, as well as blood tests to look at the Liver function.

Don't  
Believe  
it was  
cleared

An important part of this follow up is screening for a type of Liver Cancer, which is a rare but important condition to detect early.

OMG