**A**

**UK NEQAS Haematology**

**DNA Diagnostics for Haemoglobinopathies**

***(Helping to make genetic tests for haemoglobinopathies more reliable)***

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for offering to collect specimens to be used to produce cell lines, which will be used in the UK NEQAS Haematology DNA Diagnostics for Haemoglobinopathies programme. The cell lines are produced in collaboration with the Manchester Centre for Genomic Medicine and are kept solely for use by UK NEQAS Haematology. Inside this pack you will find all the information you will need to provide us with suitable specimens. In addition to this instruction letter (Letter A), this pack contains:

* + - * 1. Instruction letter (A)
				2. A patient information sheet (B)
				3. A patient consent form (C)
				4. Genetics Cellbank request form (D)

Document B is for the patient. Document C is the consent form to be signed by the patient. Document D is to be completed by the referring clinician and sent alongside the specimens to the Manchester Cell Bank.

Please ensure that no patient identifiable information is included on any of these sheets.

A courier will be arranged to transport the specimens from your location to the Manchester Centre for Genomic Medicine. Follow the instructions on the Cellbank request form (D) for sample requirements, storage requirements and transport arrangements.

UK NEQAS will cover all the costs of courier transport. Please call UK NEQAS Haematology on the 01923 number provided below to let us know when you are planning to take the sample and to arrange a courier. We will provide you a unique identifier to write on form D which can be used to anonymise the patient. Please keep a record of this identifier for your own information.

In case of queries please contact Barbara De la Salle or Bashori Rahman using the details below.

UK NEQAS(H) Tel : + 44 (0)1923 587111

PO Box 14 E-mail: haem@ukneqas.org.uk

WATFORD www.ukneqash.org

WD18 0FJ

**Please do not send specimens to the above address.**

If you need to contact us about a case, please use the unique identifier assigned. You should make a note of this identifier and include it any communication.

Best wishes and thank you for your assistance

**Dr Barbara De La Salle**

**Scheme Director**