

16 July 2026

Update for patients on East Lancashire Industrial Action in Blood Sciences

Dear patient

Due to strike action within the Blood Sciences Department at both Royal Blackburn Teaching Hospital and Burnley General Teaching Hospital, East Lancashire based GP Practices can only offer **a limited number of routine blood tests**.

This action primarily affects patients within the East Lancashire footprint, including areas such as Pendle, Hyndburn, Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Rossendale and parts of Ribble Valley.

Bloods considered urgent by clinicians are still being carried out and sent through to the laboratory for testing, such as those in relation to cancer or other clinically urgent conditions.

We would like to apologise for the inconvenience this may cause to our local community.

The Lancashire and South Cumbria Pathology Service are actively exploring opportunities to support processing, with the intent of returning to 100% capacity over the next few weeks.

A number of frequently asked questions are available on the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board website here: <https://lscprovidercollaborative.nhs.uk/blood-sciences-strikes>

Thank you

Lancashire and South Cumbria Pathology Service

**We apologise for any
inconvenience this may cause.**



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information**