

Referring Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) for a Rare Disease

Clinician's How-To Guide

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A. WGS Checklist



1: Check WGS eligibility

On the <u>National Genomic Test Directory (PDF)</u> check "WGS" is indicated under "Methods" in Associated Tests.

2: Complete the Test Order Form

Complete the **Test Order form** (one per family)

3: Consent and complete the Record of Discussion form(s)

After consenting the patient, complete a <u>Record of Discussion</u> for each individual in the family being tested (+ a <u>Consultee form</u> if patient is an adult lacking capacity)

4: Organise WGS samples

Provide the patient and family members being tested with completed <u>Sample Forms</u> to take with them to their local hospital/phlebotomy

5: Send the Record of Discussion forms and Test Order Forms to the laboratory

Send to gos-tr.wgsnorththamesglh@nhs.net save a copy to your records

B. WGS Pathways

There are **two** suggested pathways for WGS referrals. One is by requesting and consenting for WGS yourself, and another is by requesting via a Genomic Practitioner/Associate.

Genomic Practitioner/Associate: gos-tr.ntgenomicsassociate@nhs.net

role established to help meet the demands of genetic testing, with a specialised knowledge of WGS.

- Point of contact between consultants and the laboratory
- WGS request help consenting, forms, sample collection, sample chasing
- Track WGS activation and dispatch

Non-WGS genetic testing, clinical details, decisions on clinical urgency and feeding back clinical information/WGS results to patients are **NOT** part of the role.

			Λ		5
	No	orth	Th	am	es
Genomic M	ledi	cine	Se	rvi	ice

	Eligibility for Main	nstream Genetic Testing Genomic Medicine Service
	Make sure patient	fulfils NGTD criteria
	O Discuss family his	story
Key:	O Determine whether	er this is a singleton
Referring Consultant	· · ·	patient to be tested) or trio
	••	nd both parents to be tested) binations, please check possibility
Genomic Practitioner	with laboratory	binations, please check possibility
	O Discuss family his	Appointment story consent discussion
	•	he patient is happy with the
	genetic referra	
	O Complete Test Ord	der form
	(page 5 and 6)	
	0.0	0 : 5 :::
NO	? Requesting via	Genomic Practitioner YES
	tment [continued] ire consent discussion	Send Test Order Form to Genomic Practitioner (gos- tr.ntgenomicsassociate@nhs.net)
•	rd of Discussion	
	ge can be virtually	Genomic Practitioner Appointment
	r with the patient face- nsultee form if adult lacking	
capacity)	isuitee form if adult facking	Go through consent discussionComplete Record of Discussion
O Provide Patient	Information Leaflets	(+ Consultee form if adult lacking capacity)
and <u>video</u> lin		O Provide Patient Information Leaflets
	e Form(s) (page 11) to	and video link O Provide Blood Test Request Form(s)
	mbers being tested Electronic Patient	to all family members being tested
Record	ioon onio i anone	(if not done by consultant)
		 Send forms to department pathway coordinator to save to Electronic
		Patient Record
Following the	e Appointment	Following the Appointment
Send Record of	Discussion form(s)	Send Record of Discussion form(s)
and Test Ord	er form to gos-	and Test Order form to gos-
	hamesglh@nhs.net boratory that all	tr.wgsnorththamesglh@nhs.net Confirm with laboratory that all
	e arrived and the test	samples have arrived, and the test
has been act		has been activated

C. Eligibility for WGS



Patient eligibility for WGS clinical indications can be found on the <u>NHS England » National genomic test</u> <u>directory</u>. If you need to determine which genes/panels are included in a clinical indication, please visit <u>PanelApp</u>.

R59 Early onset or syndromic epilepsy

The Clinical Code/Indication

Testing Criteria

Unexplained epilepsy with clinical suspicion of a monogenic cause including:

- Onset under 2 years, OR
- Clinical features suggestive of specific genetic epilepsy, for example Dravet syndrome, OR
- Additional clinical features: intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorder, structural abnormality (e.g. dysmorphism, congenital malformation), unexplained cognitive/memory decline

Testing may occasionally be appropriate where age of onset is between 2 and 3 years and following clinical agreement by a specialist MDT.

Overlapping indications

- R110 Segmental overgrowth disorders Deep sequencing test should be used where megalencephaly
 is present to allow detection of somatic mosaic variants
- R14 Acutely unwell children with likely monogenic disorder should be used in acutely unwell children with epilepsy

NOTE: If a metabolic disorder is suspected, testing should be carried out either using R89 or R98 or under an alternative metabolic-related clinical indication

Referrals for testing will be triaged by the Genomic Laboratory; testing should be targeted at those where a genetic or genomic diagnosis will guide management for the proband or family.

Where in Pathway

At presentation

Requesting Specialties

- Clinical Genetics
- Metabolic Medicine
- Neurology

Specialist Service Group

Neurology

Associated Tests

Check whether you are eligible for requesting this test

It is not a requirement to perform microarray testing in addition to WGS but microarray testing can be performed where appropriate

Code	Name	Optimal Family Structure	Scope(s)	Target Type	Target Name	Method
R59.2	Genomewide Microarray	Singleton	Genomewide CNVs	Genomewide	Genomewide	Microarray
R59.3	Epilepsy - early onset or syndromic WGS (phase 1)	Trio or singleton	Exon level CNVs, Small variants, STRs	Panel of genes or loci	Genetic epilepsy syndromes (402)	WGS

Make sure WGS is an associated test

If trio is indicated, include parents if available

D. Forms required:

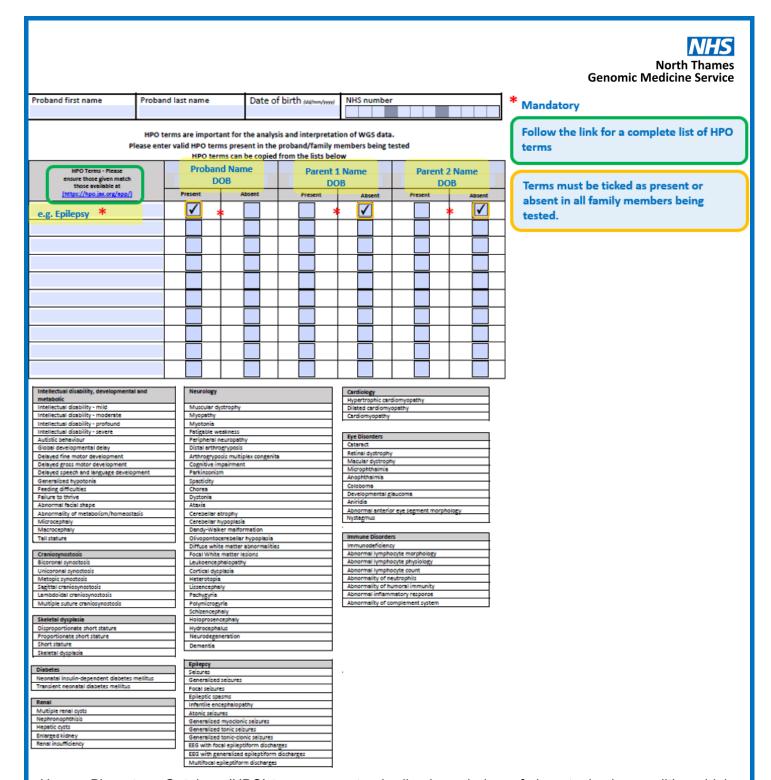


Two forms must be sent **electronically** to the NT GLH (<u>gos-tr.wgsnorththamesglh@nhs.net</u>): The Test Order Form (see page 5) and the Record of Discussion (

Blood samples (1xEDTA tube) must be sent with the NT GLH <u>Blood Test Request Form</u> (see page <u>11</u>).

1. The Test Order Form: completed by the consultant

Genomic Medicine Service	* Mandatory		
Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) est Request PLEASE DO NOT USE FOR NON-WGS TESTS	RARE AND INHERITED DISEASES	Check on the National Genomic Test	
Requesting organisation: * Your hospital	Directory whether you are eligible for		
GLH laboratory: * North Thames	requesting this test		
Proband's first name	Life status * Ethnicity *		
*	□ Alive □ Deceased ▼	If only one parent available, select	
Proband's last name	Family test 🜟 🔲 Singleton 🔲 Trio 🔲 Other (provide number):	"other" and type "DUO" in the adjacent box	
Date of birth (64/mm/yyy) Hospital number	Relevant clinical information Please include any previous molecular testing with date(s) and any other pertinent		
Gender * Please state in citrical information box if Eurypotypic and/or phenotype Male Female Other ass differ from given gender	dinical information		
Postcode *	Why you are ordering the test	Reasons for urgent testing must be	
NHS number *	Summary of clinical picture	provided	
	Family history		
Reason NHS Number not available: Patient not eligible for NHS number (e.g. foreign national) Other (please provide reason):	Whether previous testing has been undertaken (when/where)	The main R code detailed in the	
Test request		National Genomic Test Directory. Only	
Clinically urgent There is currently no urgent WGS pathway, however it may be possible	Test Directory Clinical Indication & code (reason for testing)	WGS-eligible R codes are available in	
to prioritise some cases. Please provide details of why this referral is	*	the drop-down menu	
considered urgent.		Additional panels (including non-WGS panels) can be requested here	
	Proband's age of onset * years months		
Additional panel(s) (if relevant; mandatory for R89)			
use panels with panel type "GMS Rare Disease Virtual" -	Disease penetrance Specific rare or inherited diseases that are suspected or have been confirmed		
http://panelapp.genomicsengland.co.uk)	Complete Incomplete	If penetrance is unknown, select 'Incomplete"	
Family members to be tested (not required for proband		Incomplete	
First name Last name Date of birth (or postcode if	Gender Deceased Status Ethnicity Relationship to proband		
not known)		If one or more family member is included	
		in the test (duo/trio WGS), add details	
Samples being sent to GLH DNA extraction lab (only rec	uired if also using this form for sample collection)		
First name Last name Date of birth Samp	le ID Collection date / time Sample type Sample volume Comments	Not required to complete when using a	
	_	Sample Form (page 11)	
	_		
	<u> </u>		
Responsible clinician / consultant 🜟	Main contact (if different from responsible clinician/consultant)		
Name:	Name:		
Department address:	Department address:		
Phone:	Phone:		
Email:	Email:		
☐ I have attached a copy of the Record of Discussio ☐ Patient conversation taken place; Record of Discu	n form for all individuals		



Human Phenotype Ontology (HPO) terms are a standardised vocabulary of phenotypic abnormalities which are important for the analysis and interpretation of WGS data.

Please complete accurately for each family member being tested (present/absent boxes ticked).

A complete list can be found at <u>Human Phenotype Ontology (jax.org)</u>.

Follow this <u>link</u> for more information on how to use HPO terms in a clinical context.

HPO terms are very important for increasing the chances of finding a potential diagnosis via the panel agnostic exomiser variant prioritisation analysis that is carried out if the panel-tiering analysis is negative. If choosing HPO terms is done properly, this would also reduce the need for further analysis.

2. The <u>Record of Discussion</u> - completed by the consultant or Genomic Practitioner



Page 3 (pictured) of the document to be completed after a full consent conversation – a summary of the conversation is listed on Page 1 and 2 (not pictured). This can be completed remotely (i.e. consent appointment over the phone/virtual). Information on what to include in the consent conversation is detailed page 8-10.

For adults lacking capacity, please also complete the **Consultee form**.

	NHS	Genamic Mediaine Service. Record of Discussion Po	orm version 4.03,		* Mandatory
First name *		NHS number (or postcode if no	Genomics england	01-NGIS-ROD (V4.03)	ivialidatory
Confirmat	tion of Your	Genomic Test and	Research Cho	oices	
	ve had the opportunity choice is indicated be	to discuss information about ge ow.	enomic testing, I agree to the	genomic test,	
		the National Genomic Research ase ignore B and sign directly below		YES NO	
B. I agree th Research	AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF	nder sample may contribute to th	e National Genomic	YES NO	
Patient name *	19	Signature	Date		
<u> </u>	40	-	5 8 1 = m 1		Mandatory signature for children,
If you are signing please sign below		someone else (children, adults v	without capacity or decease	d patients) then	adults lacking capacity or deceased patients
Parent Guardiar please amendas appr	n Consultee name opriate	Signature	Date		 if patient is an adult lacking capacity, a separate Consultee form must be
		*		IN PIPE	completed in addition to the Record of Discussion
Healthcare p	rofessional use	only			
To be completed by	by the healthcare profe	essional recording the patient's o	hoices.		A reason why the National Genomic
Patient category *	Adult (made their own Adult lacking capacity Child (parent or guare	(choices advised by consultee) Dece	cian has agreed to the test (in the p tased (choices made on behalf of d		Research library has not been discussed must be given (i.e. if A is ticked as NO)
Testtype *	Rare and Inherited D	iseases - WGS Cano	er (paired tumour normal) - WGS		
If answer to research choice A is NO	Patient would like to	fiscuss at a later date Inapp y and no consultee available Othe	propriate to have discussion		
Remote consent		y clinician, no patient signature			The Record of Discussion form can be
Responsible clinician	*	ė. ė.			completed remotely if the patient
Hospital number					appointment is virtual/over the phone
i				1	
Healthcare profes	ssional name *	Signature	Date		
SC.			00/ 10/		

E. Consent Requirements:



1. WGS Consenting via the Genomic Practitioner

It is important to note that the consultant **ultimately has responsibility for patient consent**. Therefore, it is essential that you make sure the patient is happy to proceed with the genetic testing before referring them. The Genomic Practitioner would then speak to the patients and all family members to be tested and fill the Record of Discussion form.

a. Consultant Preliminary Discussion with the Patient:

- What WGS is reading through all the DNA and analysing specific areas (virtual panels) NOT gene agnostic
- 2. <u>Managing expectations Turnaround time</u> from the point that all blood samples/consent forms have arrived at the laboratory
 - a. 12 months (routine tests) (as of August 2024)
 - b. 12 weeks (urgent tests) (as of August 2024)
- 3. <u>Understanding that the patient will be contacted by a Genomic Practitioner</u>

The Genomic Practitioner will discuss the National Genomic Research Library with the patient.

If possible, please provide Patient Information Leaflets and the WGS video link

2. WGS Consenting yourself

a. Full Consent Conversation required:

	Individuals aged 16+ years with capacity	Children (less than 16 years)	Adults without capacity	Individuals who are deceased
Clinical test	RoD reviewed with each individual	RoD reviewed with parent/guardian	RoD reviewed with person acting in best interests of the patient	RoD reviewed with appropriate relative

- 1. What WGS is reading through all the DNA and analysing specific areas (virtual panels)
- 2. Small blood sample required for each family member
- 3. <u>Turnaround time</u> from the point that all blood samples have arrived at the laboratory
 - a. 12 months (routine tests) (as of August 2024)
 - b. 12 weeks (urgent tests) (as of August 2024)

4. Family Implications

- a. Implications on other family members or future pregnancies
- Opportunities for relatives to have access to screening, predictive genetic testing and/or information about reproductive choices based on these results or family history
- c. Importance of sharing results with family members if a pathogenic variant is found (it is helpful to start early conversations about this rather than only after the results are available)

5. Uncertainty



- Results may find a variant of uncertain/unknown significance (VUS) = a genetic change that may affect the way the gene is working, but there is not enough evidence available to confirm this as a disease-causing or likely diseasecausing variant.
- b. May require a referral for further genetic testing via Clinical Genetics Service
- c. Variants of uncertain significance should not be used to make clinical decisions for the individua or family members
- d. This result may change over time as this can be re-analysed in future

6. <u>Unexpected Information/ Incidental Findings</u>

- Pathogenic variants may be identified that are unrelated to the reason for the genetics referral, and may indicate an underlying predisposition to a different phenotype (e.g. risk of further cancer or diagnosis with other possible health problems)
- b. These are not routinely looked for and they are rare to come across as the laboratory focuses analysis on virtual panels relevant to the genetic referral
- The results will NOT inform all health conditions currently, there are no additional looked-for findings, however these may still be found by chance
- Misattributed parentage is another example of incidental findings

7. DNA storage

- a. The blood sample will be sent to the laboratory and DNA will be extracted
- b. This DNA will continue to be stored (approximately 30 years) unless the patient requests this to be destroyed
- c. This DNA can be accessed by other laboratories within the NHS Genomic Medicine Service
- d. The DNA will not be used for further genetic testing without consent however, this may be used as a control sample for testing other family members
- e. DNA is not always of sufficient quality and another sample may be required to complete testing

8. Data storage

- Data includes patient's health and genomic information, which can be securely access on an ongoing basis by NHS healthcare professionals
- b. Data is stored behind various NHS firewalls
- c. National (identifiable) and international (non-identifiable) comparison of data for greater understanding of significance of any results may be required
- d. Germline variants may be shared for relatives to access testing (limited identifiers to process the test) but medical information will not be shared with relatives
- e. Genomic data may be re-analysed in future as new evidence can occasionally change results
- The report will be available on the patient's clinical record

b. The <u>National Genomic Research Library</u> (Genomics England)



	Individuals aged 16+ years with capacity	Children (less than 16 years)	Adults without capacity	Individuals who are deceased		
NGRL	The research choice is captured within the RoD. There is an additional 'Participation in the NGRL' form to note the individual's choice if this was not made at the time when the clinical test was discussed.					
	No additional forms	OPTIONAL assent form signed by child	MANDATORY form signed by consultee	No additional forms		

For adults lacking capacity, a <u>Consultee form</u> is also required (will be completed by the Genomic Practitioner if using this pathway).

- 1. What it is a comprehensive database that enables approved researchers to access *de-identified* genomic data, health data and samples
- 2. Research participation is an opt in process (they can choose to take part)
- 3. Who can access national and international scientists, researchers, and healthcare companies
- 4. Data accessed
 - a. The Data is de-identified (pseudonymised) each patient record is given a unique identification number instead of name, DOB and contact details
 - b. The data available included data about the sample, the raw data of the sample analysis, the patient clinical data (information about their condition that was submitted when ordering WGS) and secondary clinical data from NHS and GP records
- 5. Patients may be <u>re-contacted</u> for years to come by GE or clinical team
 - a. Certain approved staff within Genomics England will be able to see both identified and deidentified patient data to inform patients about any diagnosis found or to access a clinical trial
 - b. They will NOT be contacted for marketing purposes
- 6. They can withdraw from research and data sharing at any time
 - a. Partial withdrawal: the patient is happy for their data to continue to be stored but they do not wish to be contacted by Genomics England
 - b. Full withdrawal: all data will no longer be included in any future data releases for further research access

F. WGS Sample Form



A completed NT GLH <u>Sample Form</u> with patient details <u>must</u> be attached to the labelled blood tube (1x EDTA) for WGS.

If the patient is unable to provide a blood test, a saliva kit can also be accepted. In this case, please provide the patient with a completed <u>Sample Form</u>, a saliva kit (e.g. OG-600 or OG-500 kits) and a pre-paid envelope with the GLH address, for the saliva and form to reach the laboratory for extraction:

North Thames GLH, Rare & Inherited Disease Genomic Laboratory Specimen Reception, Level 5 Barclay House, 37 Queen Square, London WC1N 3BH

The form is double sided (page-2 not pictured) – please make sure to print both sides as information on the back is needed for phlebotomy and the processing of samples at the laboratory.

North Thames Genomic Rare & Inherited Disease Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children Net Foundation Trust 7883 Please note that forms received with missing patient identifiers of GENETIC TEST REQUEST FORM Lab Ref (lab use only) Patient Details - use four patient identifiers * First name: DOB: Sex Assigned at birth: Hospital No/Your Ref: Ethnicity: GOSH Family ID:	House University College London Hospitals UKAS ON WCIN 3BH NNS Foundation Trust		* Mandatory
Patient Address:	Referring Consultant Email:		
Postcode:	Referring Clinician: I have discusse this patient and have retained a rec page 2). Consent is not require	ord of discussion (see	
NHS Patient (England) <u>*Billing Address</u> (If organisation	o be invoiced):	Purchase Order No.	
NHS Patient (Wales, Scotland, N.I)* Private/International Patient* *Patient Email Address (if Self F.	nding):		
Specimen Details If high risk please specify: Sample Type	Date / Time Collected Collected By		
High Risk Specimen?	Date, mile concerce	Concetted by	
Yes No		Urgent Routine	If only requesting a sample for WGS,
°Clinical Indication Code: R * "WGS", or WGS C	inical R code	- *	this section is optional (as this
Reason for referral: (please give clinical details & details of previous genet	For Nns England Te-		information will be included in the Test
		ferrals, please refer to the National Genomic Test Directory for avail- able tests and eligibility criteria - https:// www.england.nhs.uk/ publication/national- genomic-test-directories/	Order Form). If requesting other non-WGS genetic testing (e.g. microarray, WES), please include clinical information
Molecular Genetic Testing Microarray (EDTA only)	Karyotype (Lithium Heparin)		(r - r - r - r - r - r - r - r - r - r -
(EDTA, except NIPD, see below) DNA storage ONLY If requesting urgent microarray (e.g. pregnancy, inf. <3 months) please send a Lithium Heparin as well	(Short Stature/Amenorrhe	a ONLY)	If requesting other non-WGS genetic testing, please tick the relevant boxes
Cytogenetic follow up (EDTA & Lithium Heparin)	To exclude Ring 20 (Epilepsy)	Azoospermia/Male Infertility/IVF	
Carrier test Please give the name & GOSH MRN of index paties above or include copy of index patient report	Premature Ovarian Failure/IVF	Sample requested by lab	
Predictive test Rapid testing for infants (Lithium Heparin & EDT.	Chromosome Breakage (not Frag	ile X) (Lithium Heparin)	
NIPD (PAXgene or Streck cell stabilising tube) 13/18 21 Aneuploidy (please specification)) Fanconi Anaemia	Bloom Syndrome	
Please provide relevant family history above Presence of SRY (chromosomal ser	Other—contact the lab		

G. More resources:



1. Genomics Resources

What is Genomics?

Genomics 101: Genomics in Healthcare

The Genomics Era: The Future of Genetics in Medicine

RCGP Genomics Toolkit

New Conditions Factsheet (Genomics Education Programme)

2. WGS Resources

<u>Guide-to-requesting-WGS-RD-Nov-20.pdf (hee.nhs.uk)</u>

Requesting whole genome sequencing: information for clinicians - Genomics Education Programme (hee.nhs.uk)

Test order forms - North Thames GMS : North Thames GMS (norththamesgenomics.nhs.uk)

Whole Genome Sequencing - North Thames GMS: North Thames GMS (norththamesgenomics.nhs.uk)

Rare Diseases Test Order Forms and Clinician Packs (scroll to Rare Disease- whole genome sequencing (WGS)

Whole Genome Sequencing Animation - North Thames GMS

Genomic Question Time drop-in session (Teams link)

- First Thursday of the month 12:30-13:00
- Passcode: aDYRNt
- Or contact us on: nt-gmsa@gosh.nhs.uk

Whole Genome Sequencing - Genetic Test Ordering

How useful did you find this how-to guide? Please let us know how we can improve.