Welcome to the March edition of the HTA newsletter.

It’s been a while since our last edition, so this one will be a brief catch up to get everyone on track and we will return with a full newsletter in June.

See you then!

Feedback

Please let us know what you think of our Newsletter. We really value your feedback:
http://forms.ncl.ac.uk/view.php?id=12289

Staff Update

Mhairi Anderson  We welcomed back our Quality Assurance and Development Manager from her maternity leave, on 27th February. We would like to say a huge thank you to Emma Raine and Debbie Lett for the excellent work they have done in her absence.

Peter Holmes  Our Project Manager for the Achiever sample tracking software, Peter Holmes, will be retiring in April. He will be a huge loss to the team who have made significant progress in their implementation of the Achiever system under Peter’s exceptional management. Interviews for Peter’s replacement were held on 16th March and news on the new project manager will be distributed shortly.

Achiever Update

The Achiever team have been making great progress since the last newsletter with a total of 466,248 samples now uploaded onto the system.

Visit the Achiever blog for more details on the roll out of the system:
https://blogs.ncl.ac.uk/achiever/

Recent Project Achievements:

- Central Biobank is now Live
- Freeman Respiratory and Transplant samples have been uploaded.
- Development of a Achiever ready spreadsheet to facilitate data import.

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The new HTA Codes of Practice (COP) and Licensing Standards go live on April 3rd.

The Codes have been revised and streamlined to provide a clearer flow of information and fewer documents that establishments need to refer to. There are now 7 codes rather than 9, with an overarching COP on Consent (Code A) and removal of the Import and Export and Disposal COP, which are now incorporated into sector specific codes. The restructure means that establishments operating under a research licence will now only need to refer to Code A (Consent) plus the sector specific code - Research and standards (Code E).

The 4 HTA licensing standards have also been changed to 1. Consent, 2. Governance and Quality Systems, 3. Traceability, 4. Premises, Facilities and Equipment. A copy of the standards is now held as an appendices to the Research COP.

Please make yourself aware of these changes by referring to the HTA website and contact us if you have any questions.

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