

# Marlow & Thame Community Hubs

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

## Microsemi CRP Case Study

Thame & Marlow Community Hubs have each recently installed HORIBA Medical's latest point-of-care testing analyser, the Microsemi CRP to streamline existing diagnostic pathways in the community and help reduce local A&E admissions for frail patients.

The Microsemi CRP is a compact and user-friendly 'near-patient' analyser which is able to give a lab-accurate, **combined** 3-part differential full blood count and a CRP measurement from a tiny 18µL **whole** blood sample within just **4 minutes** of analysis. Information gathered from the analyser is of great value in determining the presence of bacterial infection and inflammation, and given the rapidity of results delivered, patients can receive the treatment they need straight away or be referred appropriately and without delay.

### Reducing Unnecessary Local Admissions

Opened in April 2017, the new Frailty Assessment Hubs located at both Thame & Marlow Community Hospitals (alongside those already existing at Stoke Mandeville & Wycombe Hospitals), offer a 'one-stop shop' for frail patients in the locality to receive the care they need closer to home, with the added benefit of reducing pressure on the local acute sites - particularly during the busier winter months. Teams of elderly care consultants, nurses, therapists, paramedics and GPs are available on site to provide expert assessments, undertake tests and agree a treatment plan with patients. If required, they can refer patients to the right community or hospital team to provide ongoing support or treatment.

### Convenient, Accessible Service for Patients

Shelagh Wojtowicz (Staff Nurse at Marlow Community Hub) said, "Patients see it as an advantage. Before the analyser was installed, we sent our samples away via two collection slots. Of course, this meant that patients were not able to access their results until 1-2 days later, whereas now, we can perform a combined FBC and CRP and see a result within 4 minutes and take the relevant course of action almost immediately. It also means that patient samples don't get lost."

Kate Lee (Lead Nurse) added, "Although the service is in its early days at Thame & Marlow, the impact the implementation of these analysers has had on Stoke Mandeville ED and Wycombe's Urgent Care Centre has been invaluable, especially as we move towards the winter months."



### Rapid, Laboratory-Quality Results

"We are delighted that the installation of the Microsemi CRP analyser at these vanguard Community Hub sites can enhance the quality of service delivered to patients; these instruments have become an integral part of improved, streamlined local healthcare by providing laboratory-quality results in a conveniently-accessible POC setting."

Mandy Campbell, Sales & Marketing Manager, HORIBA UK