

Citizens' Assembly: Pathology Prioritisation

1. **Specific tests:** It would be helpful to identify which tests will be most significantly impacted?
2. **Workforce:** Are there the necessary staff to deliver these tests?
3. **Patient safety:** If you have to prioritise tests then you prioritise those with the most significant clinical benefits to the patient? Apply the principles from an ethical framework (eg. SWERG Advice on Patient Choice) to ensure the greatest good for the greatest number and be aware of unconscious discrimination of tests.
4. **Learning how to manage the supply chain more effectively:** Why did the Roche shortage happen? Is there a risk assessment being done to avoid this happening elsewhere? Risk levels should be routinely assessed to ensure effective maintenance of levels of care.
5. **Shared decision making** with patients to ensure patients are made clear of any changes to their tests.
6. **Financial cost awareness:** be aware that the cost of drugs issued to replace certain tests can be higher than the tests themselves.
7. **Alternatives:** Review if there are any alternative tests to avoid particular procedures.
8. **Support:** The CA understands that it is the responsibility of individual clinicians to make decisions. The framework should be supportive to those clinicians having to make decisions and not a mandatory document.

The Citizens' Assembly has made reference to '*SWERG Advice on Patient Choice*' when discussing rationing services that are in short supply.