**Chronic Disease Monitoring Briefing**

1. **Purpose of the work**

The aim of this work is to standardise the tests requested by primary care for chronic disease diagnosis and monitoring across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG).

As a result of this work we hope to achieve the following:

* Release general practice capacity
* Reduce the risk of patient harm
* Improve patient experience
* Reduce blood test activity
* Make better use of health, care and service user resources

1. **Background**

There is currently huge variation in the tests done to diagnose and monitor chronic diseases in general practice. Nationally this is an area that has been identified where over testing is common. It is known that over testing causes harm to patients by identifying slightly raised results that cause additional testing and worry. Over testing increases staff workload in the labs and in primary care and creates additional work for clinicians reviewing the results as well as taking up patients time for further tests and additional appointments which are often unnecessary. Under testing can also be a problem as disease progression and appropriate change in management can be missed.

North Devon Health system have done work to standardise their chronic disease diagnostic and monitoring profiles in general practice using available NICE guidance and Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) information to support the work. Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have adapted North Devon’s work and updated their electronic ICE profiles to standardise the approach for general practice.

1. **BNSSG approach**

Initial conversations with the Locality Leadership Groups identified support for this work. Following this a small group of BNSSG GPs and a practice nurse met and reviewed the North Devon’s profiles, Swindon CCG profiles, current BNSSG ICE profiles and local practice profiles and developed a proposed set of profiles for BNSSG.

The draft profiles have been discussed at all the Clinical Commissioning Members meetings, at each Locality Nurse Forum and at the ICE User Group meeting. The BNSSG CCG has now signed off the profiles and the three Acute Trusts are building the BNSSG chronic disease blood profiles in all three ICE systems. The go live date for the revised profiles in ICE is the 1st March 2019.