



# NEEDLESS NEEDLES

Reducing unnecessary blood testing in primary and secondary care

## **Project team**

Dr Stuart Gray – GP

Dr Rachel Drayton – Consultant in GU medicine and HIV

Dr Carol Evans – Laboratory Director, medical biochemistry and immunology

Arjun Padmavathy – Environmental sustainability improvement officer

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# The problem



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NEEDLES**

As many as **1 in 4 tests** taken in healthcare may be unnecessary. Unnecessary testing can cause direct harm to patient and inadvertently contributes to broader harm – through the environmental impact of testing and by diverting financial and clinical resources from those who need it most.



# Our aim



**NEEDLESS  
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By addressing unnecessary testing in CAVUHB we will achieve a **5% reduction** in tests requested in primary and secondary care in the next **3 years**, saving in excess of **£500,000** and **200 tonnes CO<sup>2</sup>e**



# Enablers



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## Data drives change

Laboratory Power BI system enabling analysis of tests requested by:

- GP practice or hospital location
- Requester and named consultant



# Achievements



**NEEDLESS  
NEEDLES**

Pilot project in HIV clinic

- Estimated savings of £23,000 and 7 tonnes CO<sup>2</sup>e pa

Preliminary CAV data shows potential target areas



# What now?



**NEEDLESS  
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Make the data available to those who need it

Time and resource for decarbonization and sustainability leads

