



Minister for Public Health and Women's Health
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Clare Haughey (Convener)
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
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17 December 2025

Dear Convener,

Expanded genomic testing for patients with cholangiocarcinoma

I am writing to you in your role as convener of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee to inform you that I plan to announce on 16th December, via a Government Initiated Question raised by Marie McNair MSP, the Scottish Government's decision to fund an expansion of genomic testing for patients with cholangiocarcinoma (bile duct cancer).

Funding will be released to NHS National Services Division (NSD), as the commissioners of NHS genomic testing in Scotland, to support the implementation of this testing within the current financial year. The funding will be released to NSD in December 2025, and NSD have provided assurances that this will be available to all patients in Scotland by February 2026.

Cholangiocarcinoma is a relatively rare form of cancer and, as discussed during the recent Scottish Parliament debate held on 30th October 2025, expanded genomic testing is needed to support patient care and access to Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) approved precision therapies.

The Scottish Government is committed to improving the diagnosis and targeted treatment of disease through our continued investment in genomics through the [Genomics in Scotland](#) strategy. As part of the implementation of this strategy, there is a programme of laboratory transformation and investment planning underway to support the sustainable expansion of

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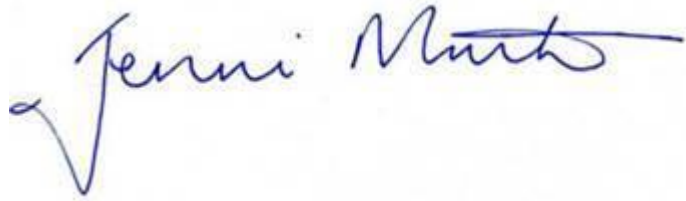
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genomic testing. This is part of our long-term approach to deliver bold and ambitious action to reform and renew our health and care systems in Scotland within a fiscal position that remains extremely challenging. This funding, however, has been agreed to support the immediate implementation of expanded testing for cholangiocarcinoma in recognition of the urgency with which this is needed for both care and treatment options for patients with this form of cancer.

I would be pleased to discuss these issues further should the Committee have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Jenni Minto'.

Jenni Minto MSP

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