

CASE STUDY

# ELGA Lab Water and Beckman Coulter join forces

at Tameside Hospital Blood Sciences Department UK

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Tameside Hospital's blood sciences department rely on their analysers to operate reliably and with minimum downtime to deliver vital services to the hospital.

When existing equipment needed replacing, Tameside installed the latest Beckman Coulter AU5811 system, needing high purity water to meet CLSI Type 1 quality standards. In order to achieve pure water requirements Tameside turned to ELGA who provided two stacked MEDICA® Pro RE 120 water purification systems which then resulted in a quicker throughput of samples, increased bench space and reliability.



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# The Client

**Tameside Hospital in Greater Manchester, UK is a typical district general hospital, serving a population of approximately 250,000 and provides a wide array of healthcare specialities including A&E, maternity, ICU and paediatric services.**

**The hospital is run by Tameside Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and has 524 beds.**

### The client's requirement

Tameside has a busy blood sciences department which process and analyse routine and urgent samples 24/7/365. It's vital their analysers operate reliably, rapidly and with minimum downtime. When the existing equipment was due for replacement, Tameside decided to install the latest Beckman Coulter AU5811 high throughput Clinical Chemistry analyzers, backed up by a smaller member of the AU chemistry family, the AU640.

The units need a total of 86 litres an hour of bacteria free high purity water which meet the CLSI Type I clinical laboratory reagent water (CLRW) quality standards. For this critical supply Beckman Coulter turned to ELGA Lab Water. Beckman Coulter and ELGA Lab Water had previously worked together to supply a water purification system to meet the demands of critical analytical laboratories - not only in terms of consistent water quality, but also in total availability of that water. Total availability means that purified water is always on tap, even during routine system and loop sanitization and servicing.

### Beckman Coulter AU5811 Clinical Chemistry Analyzer:



### Tameside Hospital:



## CASE STUDY

# The Solution

To ensure high availability of purified water, ELGA Lab Water provided two stacked MEDICA® Pro RE 120 water purification systems, these combine reverse osmosis, ion exchange, UV and microfiltration to deliver up to 120 l/h of water with 10MΩ.cm resistivity, TOC <30ppb and bacteria <1cfu/ml, all well within the CLRW Type I limits.

Each MEDICA® Pro on its own can supply sufficient water for both analyzers - the supply is via twin independent distribution loops with duplex take off manifolds which enable both loops to supply both analysers simultaneously. This allows loop sanitization and MEDICA® Pro servicing without interrupting

analyzer operation. A remote dispense station has also been fitted to provide water for general laboratory use. According to Geoff Lavelle, Deputy Diagnostics Manager (Pathology) at Tameside, the installation of the MEDICA® Pro systems was extremely well planned and organised.

### MEDICA® Pro:



“ The ELGA Lab Water engineer worked around the department's existing equipment and liaised with staff to ensure the minimum of disruption to our services. ”

“ The AU5811 and AU680 installation was professionally accomplished; the equipment was up and running within 1 working day of arrival. Evaluation and on-site staff training followed, with a full go-live running occurring a just few weeks later as planned. ”

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# The Result

The installation and training of the new equipment was achieved with minimum disruption to the pathology staff and users of its services.

Tameside has noticed a more rapid throughput of samples with the new analyzers, and has also gained increased bench space from the floor standing water systems.

The maintenance has also been greatly reduced, generating a saving of approximately 2 hours per day of biomedical scientist time.

In conclusion, the new Beckman Coulter AU5811 and AU680, in conjunction with the ELGA Lab Water **Twin MEDICA® Pro system** have proved to be two of the most reliable pieces of diagnostic equipment available. The project was delivered on time and with a glowing seal of approval from the Tameside blood science staff.

### Key Benefits:

- Quicker throughput of samples
- Increased bench space
- Reduced maintenance
- Time saving
- Increased reliability



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