RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION, DISCHARGE AND FOLLOW UP

Consider using template letters to facilitate timely communication with primary care:

- **Preoperatively**
  - To describe anaemia, investigations, likely or definitive cause, follow up plans
  - To describe treatment initiated for anaemia (eg oral iron/IV. iron)
  - To clarify whether anaemia affects the patient pathway or not

- **Postoperatively**:
  - Provision of timely (day of discharge) written discharge documentation to the patient and primary care team to include, if a new anaemia has been found:
    - Cause of anaemia
    - Hb at discharge from hospital
    - Outstanding investigations (and who will need to follow up)
    - Treatment during admission and ongoing management plan
    - Information provided to patient (eg dietary advice)
    - Whether the patient has received any blood products