

## Memorandum

TO: External and Internal Customers

FROM: Michelle Blake, Business Development Manager, LabPLUS

DATE: 02 February 2018

**SUBJECT: Method change for Soluble Transferrin Receptor (sTR)**

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Dear Valued Customer,

**Labplus are changing the method of analysis for Soluble Transferrin Receptor (sTR) analysis on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2018.**

From this date testing will be performed using the Roche c502 instrument, part of our Cobas 8000 system. Following extensive evaluation and validation this method will replace the current quantitative sTR method on our Beckman Coulter Access II analyser (to be decommissioned).

### **The Assay**

This is a Particle enhanced immunoturbidimetric assay. Plasma/serum Human soluble transferrin receptor agglutinates with latex particles coated with anti-soluble transferrin receptor antibodies causing increase in turbidity. The degree of turbidity is determined photometrically and result matched against a calibration curve.

### **New Reference Intervals**

During the evaluation process the new method was similarly able to identify iron deficiency when compared to the current method. The recovered numerical values of sTR from the new method will be raised by around 3 fold. The corresponding increase is reflected in the new reference intervals (for adults):

**Male: 2.2-5.0 mg/L ; Female: 1.9-4.4mg/L**

## Benefits

As the test will now be performed within the main Automation section of the laboratory this assay will enable a much faster turnaround time. We anticipate same day turnaround time from sample receipt to reporting.

## Samples

Suitable samples for analysis include SST Serum and Li-Heparin Plasma only. EDTA plasma is no longer suitable.

If you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact one of our Chemical Pathologists on [chemicalpathologist@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:chemicalpathologist@adhb.govt.nz)

You can also contact one of Chemical Pathologists via LabLINK at (09) 307 8995 and ask for on-duty chemical pathologist.