

## Memorandum

TO: External & Internal Customers

FROM: Michelle Blake, Business Development Manager, LabPLUS

DATE: 05 April 2018

**SUBJECT: Pre-Albumin Service**

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Dear Customer(s),

On behalf of the Department of Automation and Laboratory Support Services (ALSS) – Automation at LabPLUS, we would like to inform you that as of Monday 09 May 2018, we will be offering a Pre-Albumin service.

Currently, LabPLUS has been forwarding plasma/serum Pre-albumin tests to Canterbury Health Laboratories. After extensive evaluation and verification, LabPLUS will be offering plasma/serum Pre-albumin analysis in-house.

### **The Assay**

LabPLUS will be using the Roche assay on the c502 instrument. The assay uses a specific antibody directed against pre-albumin.

LabPLUS will be using a different assay (Roche Cobas) to what is currently used by Canterbury Health lab (BN II), however, the two assays compare well and give similar results.

### **Reference Interval and Clinical Utility**

Reference intervals have been reviewed and will be updated. While the clinically important lower limit of normal will remain unchanged, the upper limit of normal will be increased from 0.30 to 0.40g/L. In addition, age specific paediatric ranges will be implemented. These ranges are based on high quality population reference interval studies, which used our assay (Roche Cobas)[1].

For information on clinical utility of pre-albumin, please refer to the online LabPLUS Test guide. There are no current restrictions on requesting this test.

Age group	CHL Reference intervals (g/L)	LabPLUS Reference intervals (g/L)
0 - < 1yr		0.04 - 0.24
1 - < 13yr		0.12 - 0.26
13 - < 19yr		0.17 - 0.33
19 yr and older	0.20 - 0.30	0.20 - 0.40

1. Adeli, K., et al., *The Canadian laboratory initiative on pediatric reference intervals: A CALIPER white paper*. Crit Rev Clin Lab Sci, 2017. **54**(6): p. 358-413.

### Benefit

Advantage is that the Roche reagent is standardised against International standard calibrators and there is now 24 hours access, with improvement in turnaround time.

If you require any 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.