

Memorandum

TO: External & Internal Customers

FROM: Michelle Blake, Business Development Manager, LabPLUS

DATE: 07 September 2018

SUBJECT: Whole Blood Lead Reference Intervals

Dear Customer(s),

On behalf of the Department of Specialist Chemical Pathology at LabPLUS, we would like to inform you that as of Saturday 08 September 2018, Whole Blood Lead reference intervals and the comments associated with Lead exposure will change.

These changes are aligned with national and international guidelines that recognise environmental lead levels have fallen since reference intervals were last reviewed. A whole blood lead ≥ 0.24 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (instead of current level at $\geq 0.48\mu\text{mol/L}$) suggests that the individual has been, or continues to be exposed to lead at a level above average background exposure.

As an example of new guidelines, the Australian NHMRC 2015 statement is available at:

https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/files/nhmrc/publications/attachments/eh58_nhmrc_statement_lead_effects_human_health_a.pdf

Links to new guidelines are available on the LabPlus Testguide.

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact:

- One of our Chemical Pathologists on chemicalpathologist@adhb.govt.nz or
- Dr Campbell Kyle, Clinical Head, Specialist Chemical Pathology, LabPLUS

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