



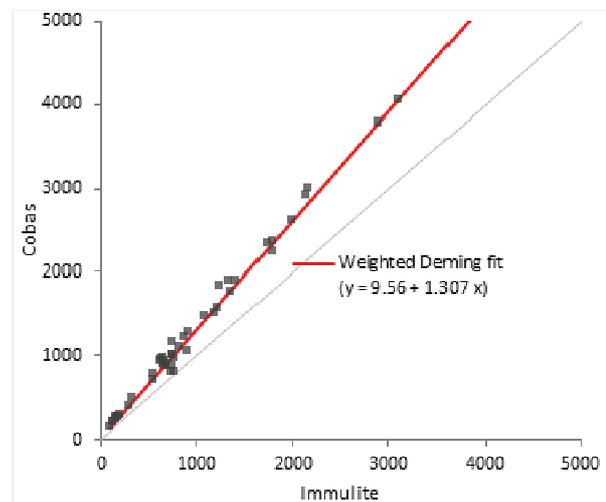
## Change in Macroprolactin Reporting

**Effective 1 September 2016**

Testing for macroprolactin is performed by Waikato DHB.

The prolactin assay is changed as well as the format of Macroprolactin reporting.

The Prolactin assay will be moved from the Siemens Immulite 2000 to the Roche Cobas e411. Results will be on average 30% higher than with the current assay, as can be seen from sample comparisons.



Currently Macroprolactin is reported as “Positive” or “Negative”. A sample may contain Macroprolactin and an increase in biologically active prolactin (PEG prolactin). The presence of an additional increase in biologically active prolactin is missed when reported only as “Macroprolactin Positive”. Experts recommend reporting the PEG prolactin value with an appropriate reference interval. PEG prolactin reflects biologically active prolactin. Macroprolactin is not biologically active. PEG prolactin will be reported when prolactin is elevated for the age of the patient.

New reference intervals:

| Age                | Prolactin | PEG Prolactin |
|--------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 0 - 30 days        | ≤ 4800    | ≤ 3800        |
| 30 days to 1 year  | ≤ 2600    | ≤ 2100        |
| 1 - 19 years       | ≤ 520     | ≤ 420         |
| Males > 19 years   | ≤ 400     | ≤ 350         |
| Females > 19 years | ≤ 600     | ≤ 500         |

The “adult” reference interval will be provided as a comment for patients 13 – 19 years old.

**Stephen du Toit, Chemical Pathologist, Waikato DHB**  
**Ph: 021 245 8325**