



06/10/2023

Dear Colleagues,

**Re: Glomerular Basement Membrane (GBM) antibody testing and urgent ANCA testing service**

Glomerular Basement Membrane (GBM) antibody testing

Due to a specificity issue with our current supplier of GBM antibody tests we are moving assays from 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to a new supplier. We are moving from the GBM assay supplied by Thermofisher (Phadia) to the assay supplied by Werfen. **Please note the new assay has a different reference range and units** (see below). The new assay also has a larger positive range (measurement range). This test will be used for both routine and urgent GBM antibody testing.

	Reference range	units	measurement range
Old GBM assay (Thermofisher)	0-6 is negative 7-10 is equivocal 11 and above is positive	U/ml	1.9 -680
New GBM assay (Werfen)	2.9 - 18.9 is negative 19.0 - 21.0 is equivocal 21.1 and above is positive	CU	2.9 - 1437

Urgent ANCA testing service

We have also made changes to the test we use for urgent MPO/PR3 antibody (ANCA) testing, due to the withdrawal of our usual assay by the manufacturer. Urgent testing for MPO and PR3 antibodies are now done using an assay on the Werfen Bioflash. The ranges are below, please note these are different to our routine MPO and PR3 antibody method supplied by Thermofisher (Phadia). These assays also have a larger positive range (measurement range).

	Reference range	units	measurement range
Urgent MPO antibodies (Werfen)	3.2 - 18.9 is negative 19.0 - 21.0 is equivocal 21.1 and above is positive	CU	3.2 - 739
Urgent PR3 antibodies (Werfen)	2.3 - 18.9 is negative 19.0 - 21.0 is equivocal 21.1 and above is positive	CU	2.3 - 3285



If MPO and PR3 antibodies are requested urgently via phone, we will continue to report these back to the requester by phone. Additionally these results will now be available in EPR under separate result lines of “urgent MPO antibodies” and “urgent PR3 antibodies”. The urgent MPO/PR3 antibody (ANCA) testing will continue to not be requestable by EPR. Please continue to order an ANCA and GBM antibody as normal and additionally phone the laboratory or the on-call Immunology consultant out-of-hours to request the test is done urgently. If we perform the urgent MPO and PR3 antibody assay the lab will follow up all requests with the normal MPO and PR3 antibody assay on the next laboratory working day.

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully

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