

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Pathology service incident update – urine albumin results**

Dear colleague,

Further to our notification to you on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024, I am writing to provide an update on the analytical issue we identified with our urine albumin assay (affecting urine albumin:creatinine ratio and 24 hour urine albumin) at our Charing Cross Hospital laboratory.

Additional review of data has confirmed that the results for urine albumin became unreliable on the 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024. We have analysed the results on all analysers across our network and have confirmed that the issue is specific to one analyser at the Charing Cross Hospital site. We are still working with the analyser manufacturer to understand the cause of the issue and why our regular quality checks did not identify this sooner.

We have extracted data to identify the potentially affected results and will be replacing these with the comment “Result unreliable due to analyser issue, please disregard. Suggest repeat test on fresh urine collection if still clinically indicated.” We are working with our data analytics team to be able to provide service users with information on the patient results impacted.

The analytical issue has produced falsely elevated results. Results within the normal reference range and those reported from the 19 October 2024 onwards are correct. As we do not know the cause of the analytical issue we have increased the frequency of quality checks and are monitoring results to provide assurance that other analysers remain unaffected.

We are very sorry for this incident and the impact that this has had on the management of your patients. We will continue to update you as further information becomes available.

Should you have concern or wish to discuss this issue please contact the duty biochemist on 02033130348 or email biochemistry advice on [ichc-tr.biochemistryadvice@nhs.net](mailto:ichc-tr.biochemistryadvice@nhs.net)

Yours sincerely,

Professor Tricia Tan  
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North West London Pathology