



RE-STANDARDISATION OF FOLATE ASSAY

Our folate test has previously been standardised to a USP reference material. We are now using a re-standardised assay to World Health Organisation (WHO) International Standard 03/178. Having undertaken comparisons between the old and new standardised assay we have determined that:

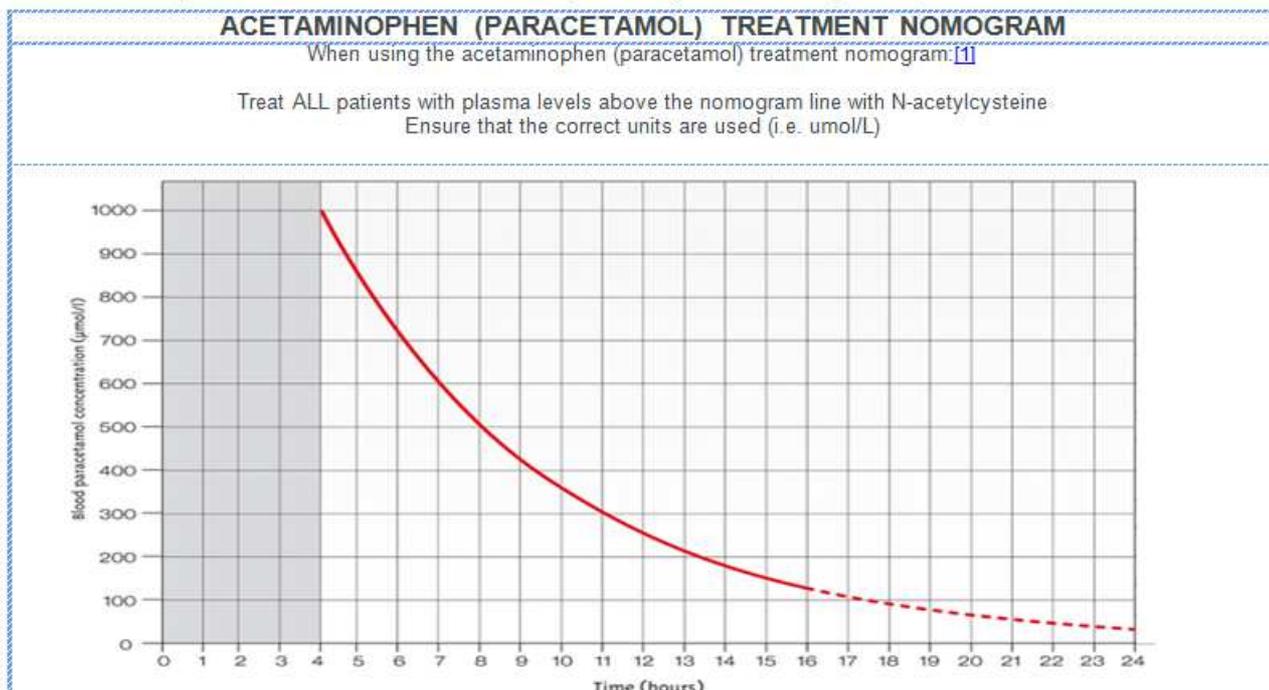
- Results may be up to 25% higher with the new WHO standardised assay.
- **The new reference interval for serum will change to 7.0 to 45.0 nmol/L**
- **The new reference interval for RBC folate will change to 317 to 1894 nmol/L**

NOTE: Red cell folate will only be estimated where the serum folate is '< 7 nmol/L.'
New reference interval will be used from 1st April 2012

PARACETAMOL – TO BE REPORTED IN $\mu\text{mol/L}$

Currently Paracetamol is reported in $\mu\text{mol/L}$ or mmol/L or both. Results reported in mmol/L may be incorrectly interpreted as low or "safe", for example 2000 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ may also be reported as 2 mmol/L . A number of clinicians have asked for Paracetamol to be reported in $\mu\text{mol/L}$ only because the nomogram on the TOXINZ site which is used to guide treatment uses $\mu\text{mol/L}$.

From 1st April 2012 results will only be reported in $\mu\text{mol/L}$.



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