

## SCBN Guidance on Tumour Marker Reference Intervals

Recognising that significant variation exists in tumour marker service provision, one of the remits of the SCBN Cancer Group was that of encouraging greater consistency across the country. As part of this work, a survey of reference intervals/decision limits used in Scottish laboratories was undertaken in 2017 by the group. While in most laboratories these were in encouragingly good agreement, some discrepancies were identified. This document summarises the reference intervals/decision limits which the group proposed should be implemented in all Scottish laboratories, and have subsequently been endorsed by the SCBN Steering Group. Adoption of these recommendations will address any remaining discrepancies.

### Recommendations for reference intervals/decision limits for serum tumour markers (adult ranges):

Tumour Marker	Age Range	Upper limit	Units
AFP	NA	6	kU/L
CA 125	NA	35	kU/L
CEA	NA	5	kU/L
HCG	NA	5	U/L
*PSA	< 60 years	3	ug/L
*PSA	60-69 years	4	ug/L
*PSA	≥70 years	5	ug/L

\* Note PSA ranges were reviewed in light of updated Scottish Cancer Referral guidelines (2019) and no amendments were required. <http://www.cancerreferral.scot.nhs.uk/>