

Free T3 Reference Interval Change

Aug 19, 2020

This information applies to: Island Physicians and Nurse Practitioners

A free T3 reagent change was made by Abbott Diagnostics that requires Health PEI to update free T3 reference intervals. Adult ranges (19-150 years) were derived from PEI patients with normal TSH and free T4 concentrations. This was not possible for pediatrics due to the dynamic nature of thyroid physiology in early life requiring sex and age-specific partitions. Pediatric reference intervals are currently reported relative to Caliper reference intervals

(http://www.sickkids.ca/Caliperproject/intervals/index.html), which will continue. Please note that the Caliper reference intervals were based on the older generation of reagents, and thus interpretation must consider other biochemical and clinical findings. Reference intervals are summarized below and have been updated in CIS.

Table 1. Age and sex specific free T3 reference intervals effective August 25, 2020

			Lower free T3 Reference Limit	Upper free T3 Reference
Sex	Lower age	Upper age	(pmol/L)	Limit (pmol/L)
	0 minutes	<1 year	3.56	7.48
	1 year	<12 years	4.29	6.79
Male	12 years	<15 years	4.44	6.65
Male	15 years	<19 years	3.46	5.92
Female	12 years	<15 years	3.84	6.06
Female	15 years	<19 years	3.55	5.70
All	19 years	150 years	3.27	6.17

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