Change from Protein:Creatinine Index (PCI) to Protein:Creatinine Ratio (PCR)

As from 4th May 2010 we will be making a change to the way we report urine protein. We currently report urine protein as a protein:creatinine index (PCI) but we will be changing to protein:creatinine ratio (PCR).

What is the difference between PCI and PCR?
PCI is calculated by dividing the urine protein (mg/L) by the urine creatinine (mmol/L) and multiplying by 10. PCR is calculated by dividing the urine protein (mg/L) by the urine creatinine (mmol/L). This calculation is similar to that for calculating PCI except that the value is not multiplied by 10.

How do I convert results from PCI to PCR?
PCI = PCR x 10

Why are we changing the way we report urine protein?
PCR has been accepted as the standard way to report urine protein in current NICE guidelines. We therefore wish to facilitate the application of NICE recommendations and avoid confusion regarding patient urine protein results.

Will a notice be included on the patient results report?
Yes, a statement will be included on the bottom of all reports for patients with urine protein results to notify you that the results are reported in PCR, not PCI.

For further information please contact,
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A copy of this paper can be found on www.pathology.leedsth.nhs.uk