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Change to ordering options for Protein Electrophoresis / Immunoglobulins on ICE

Historically, the laboratory has always performed Protein Electrophoresis on all Immunoglobulin requests, to exclude the presence of a paraprotein.

From 2nd April 2018, the ordering options on ICE will change so that Protein Electrophoresis and Immunoglobulins will need to be requested separately, if required.

The current options on ICE are 'Protein Electrophoresis' and 'Immunoglobulins'.

The new options will be 'Protein Electrophoresis' and 'Immunoglobulins (IgA, IgG, IgM)'.

Protein Electrophoresis should be ordered to confirm or exclude the presence of a paraprotein in serum where there is clinical suspicion of myeloma or for paraprotein band monitoring. Immunoglobulin quantification will continue to be added where a new paraprotein is identified and the "uninvolved" immunoglobulins reported.

Requests for **Immunoglobulins** (IgA, IgG, IgM) should be made in the context of systemic inflammatory illnesses and immunodeficiency. The laboratory will add a comment to all such requests "Protein electrophoresis not requested. Paraproteins not excluded."

Protein Electrophoresis and Immunoglobulin analysis will both be performed if both are requested.

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