# Memo

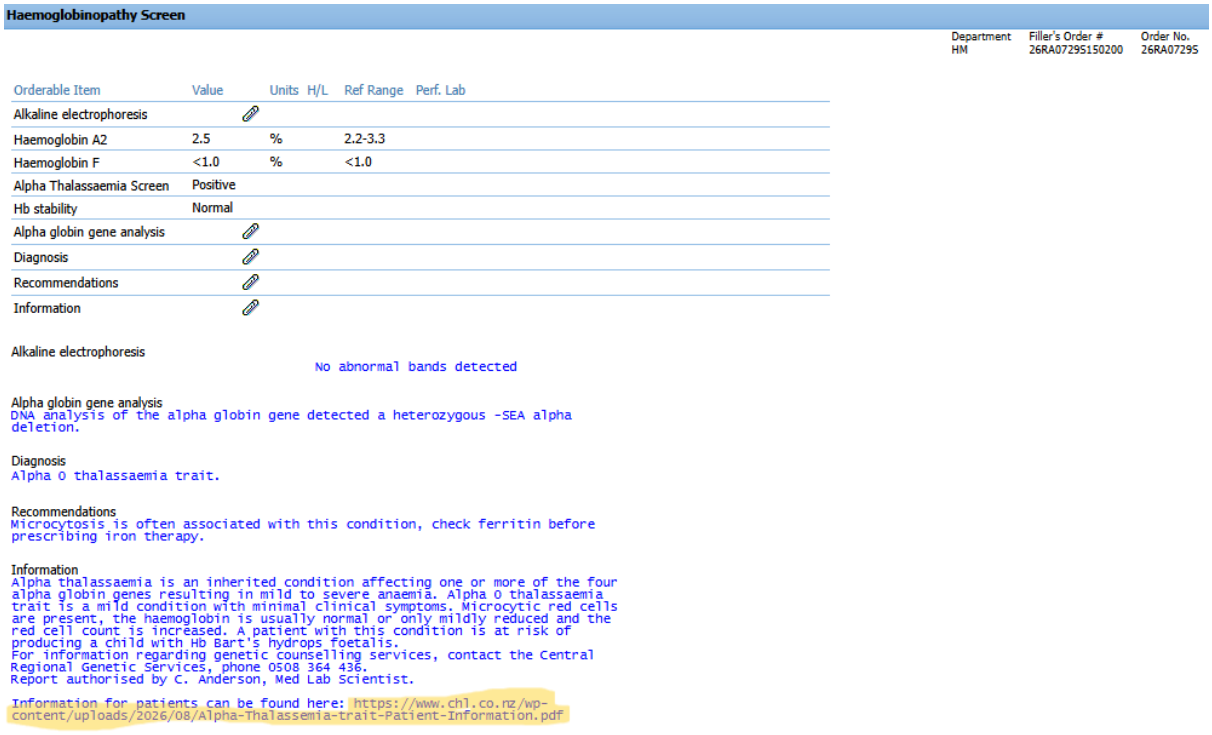
Date: 14/9/2026

## Haemoglobinopathy/Thalassaemia Patient Information – Transition to Electronic Format

Please be advised that Special Haematology will no longer provide hard copies of the Haemoglobinopathy / Thalassaemia pamphlet and patient card.

Paper copies of patient information that were previously provided with laboratory reports have now been incorporated into the laboratory report comments section. Due to system limitations, we are unable to provide a direct hyperlink within the comment. To access the information, please copy and paste the web address provided into your internet browser.

An example is shown below:



**Haemoglobinopathy Screen**

| Department | Filler's Order # | Order No. |
|---|---|---|
| HM | 26RA0729S150200 | 26RA0729S |

| Orderable Item | Value | Units | H/L | Ref Range | Perf. Lab |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alkaline electrophoresis | | | | | |
| Haemoglobin A2 | 2.5 | % | | 2.2-3.3 | |
| Haemoglobin F | <1.0 | % | | <1.0 | |
| Alpha Thalassaemia Screen | Positive | | | | |
| Hb stability | Normal | | | | |
| Alpha globin gene analysis | | | | | |
| Diagnosis | | | | | |
| Recommendations | | | | | |
| Information | | | | | |

Alkaline electrophoresis
No abnormal bands detected

Alpha globin gene analysis
DNA analysis of the alpha globin gene detected a heterozygous -SEA alpha deletion.

Diagnosis
Alpha 0 thalassaemia trait.

Recommendations
Microcytosis is often associated with this condition, check ferritin before prescribing iron therapy.

Information
Alpha thalassaemia is an inherited condition affecting one or more of the four alpha globin genes resulting in mild to severe anaemia. Alpha 0 thalassaemia trait is a mild condition with minimal clinical symptoms. Microcytic red cells are present, the haemoglobin is usually normal or only mildly reduced and the red cell count is increased. A patient with this condition is at risk of producing a child with Hb Bart's hydrops foetalis.
For information regarding genetic counselling services, contact the Central Regional Genetic Services, phone 0508 364 436.
Report authorised by C. Anderson, Med Lab Scientist.

Information for patients can be found here: https://www.chl.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Alpha-Thalassemia-trait-Patient-Information.pdf

These changes will take effect from the **21st of September 2026**. From this date onwards, hard-copy pamphlets and patient cards will no longer be distributed with patient results.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Special Haematology Team, Haematology Lab (Phone: 03 364 0375).

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