

# Harmonisation of Reference Ranges

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(presenting on behalf of  
ACBI, AMLS, RCPI Fac Path, IEQAS)

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# Reference Ranges

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- Why do we need them?
  - Is a result 'normal', 'abnormal', 'very abnormal'?
  - Guide to treatment
- How exact do they need to be?
  - That depends!!

# Reference Ranges

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- Why harmonise?
  - Different ranges in different hospitals / labs can confuse.
  - Confusion can compromise diagnosis and / or treatment
- What should we harmonise (if we were to harmonise)?
- How should we harmonise (if we were to harmonise)?

# Harmonisation of Reference Ranges

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- Pathology Harmony (UK)
  - 10 analytes for Phase 1
  - Na, K, urea, Cl, bicarb, PO<sub>4</sub>, Mg, Alb, T Prot, Osm.
- IEQAS survey 2010
  - Na, K, urea
- IEQAS survey 2011
- ?? Irish Reference Range Harmonisation

# Harmonisation of Reference Ranges

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- 3 comments:
- In principle, however different sites have different platforms with different methods.
- This is being addressed by our colleagues in the UK– why are we reinventing the wheel?
- Requires further discussion.

# Harmonisation of Reference Ranges

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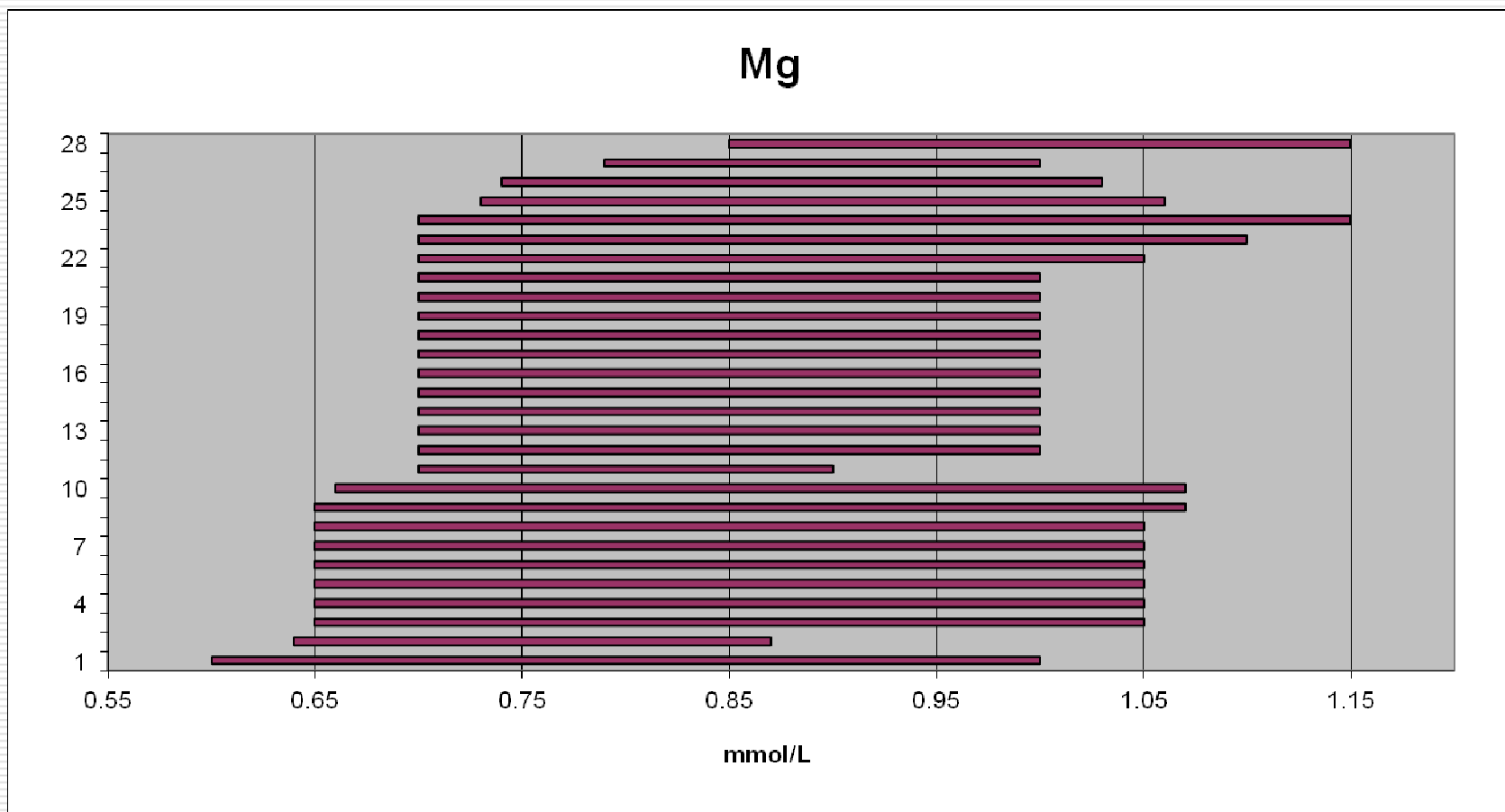
- Survey sent to 58 public and private labs.
- Replies to date from 29
- Will follow up rest later.

# Source of Reference Ranges

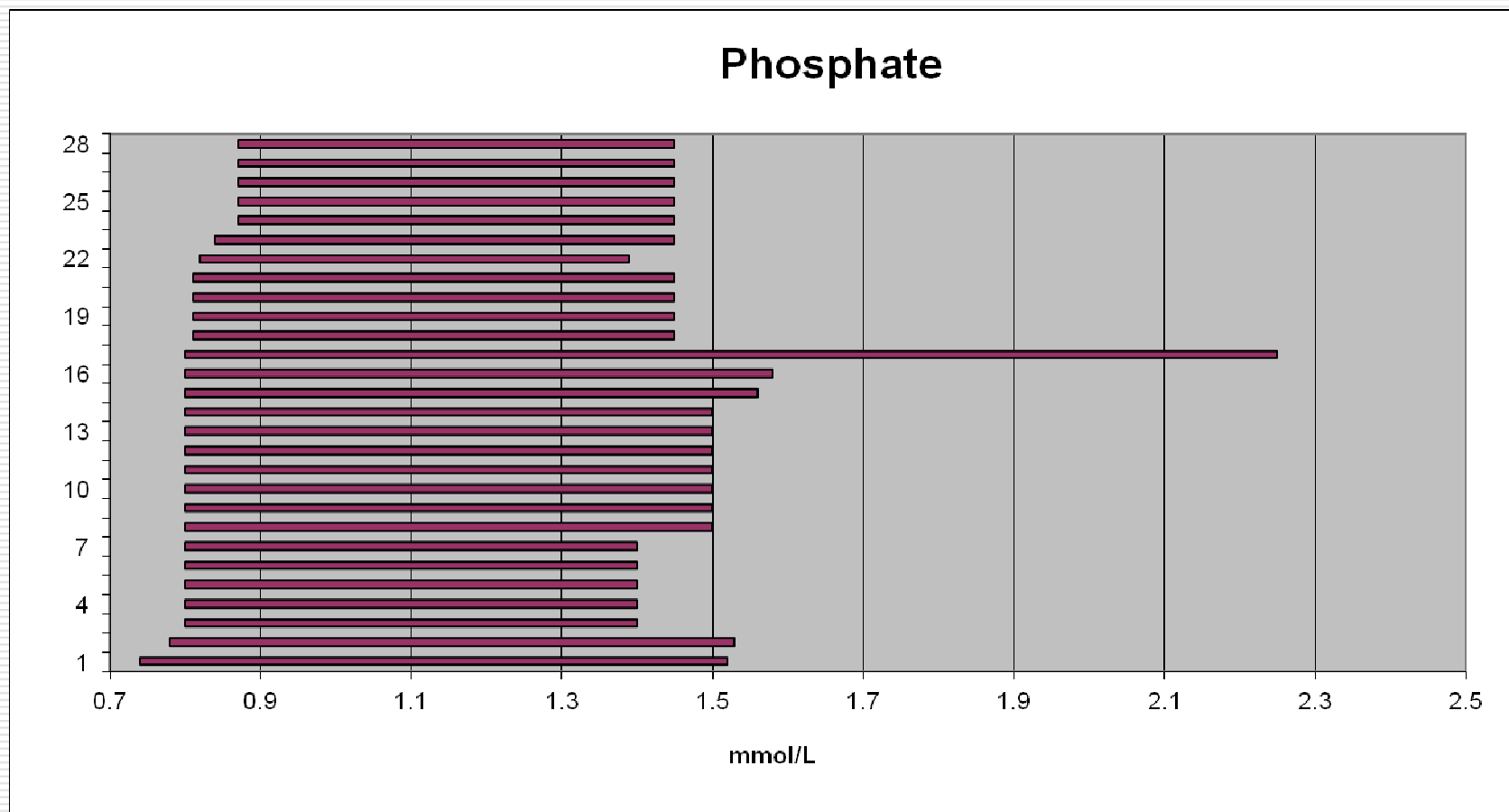
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- Manufacturer
- Literature
- In-house derived
- Not known / historical
- Combination
- Other
  - Pathology Harmony
  - Linked hospital

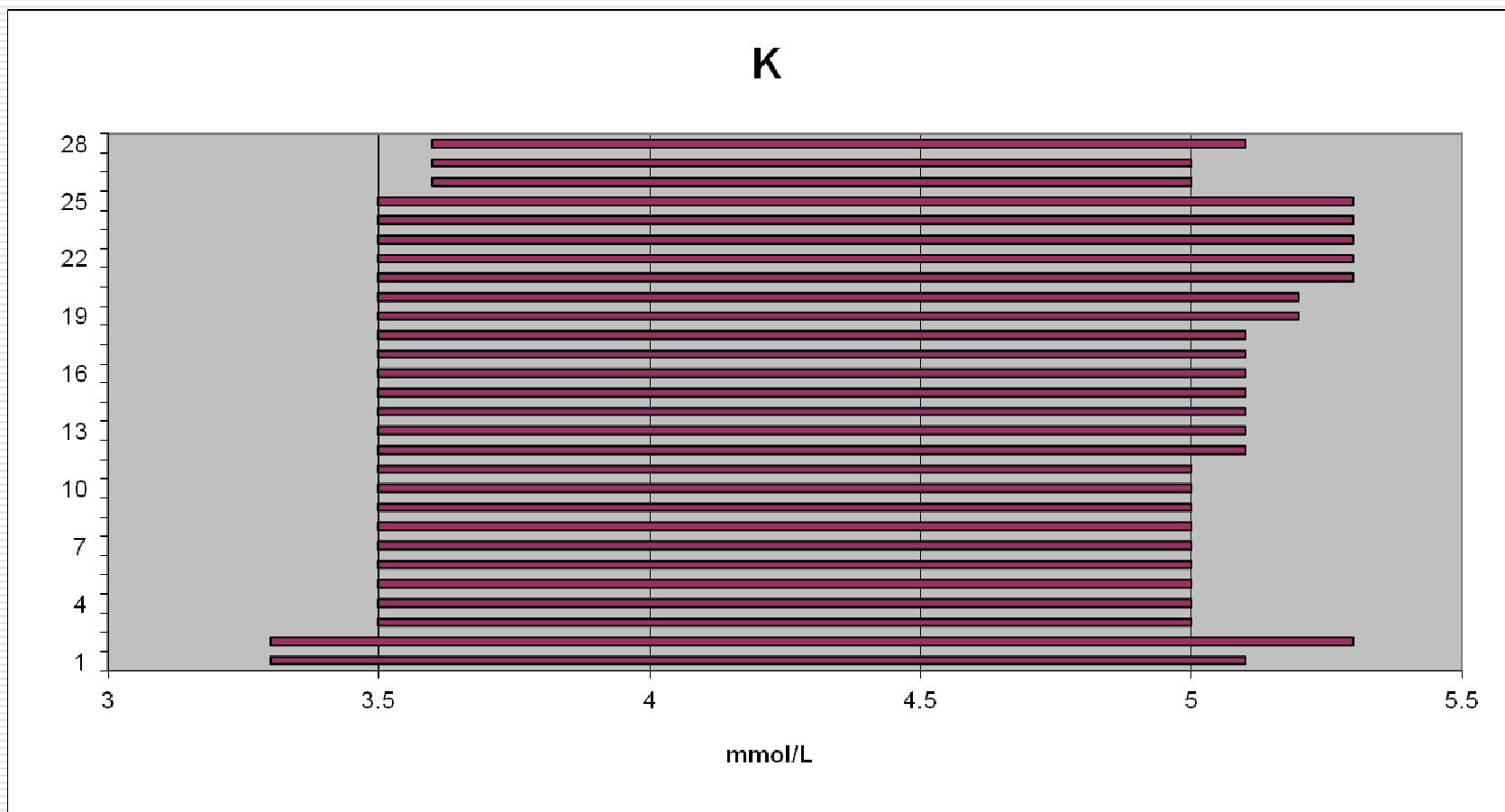
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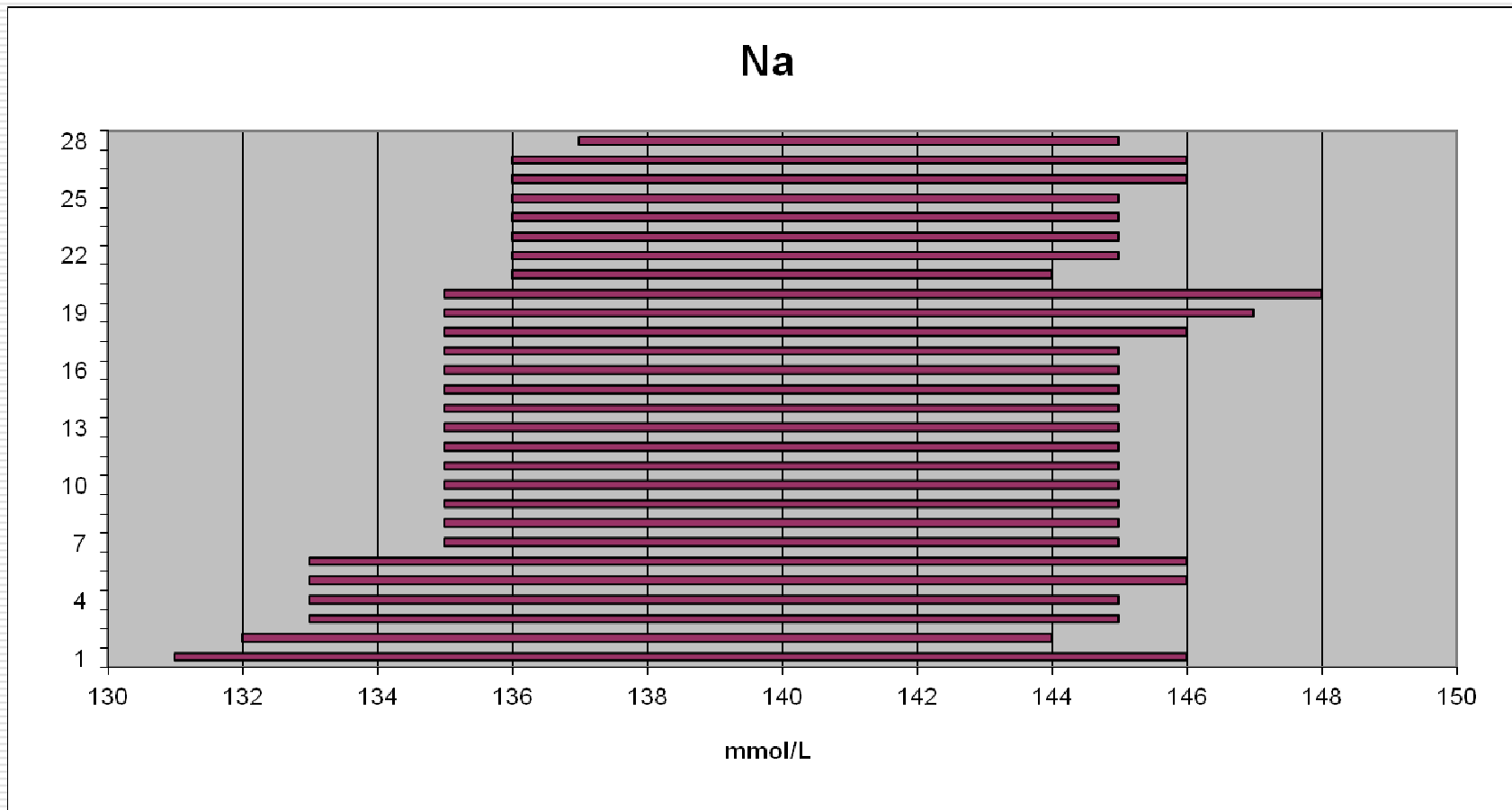
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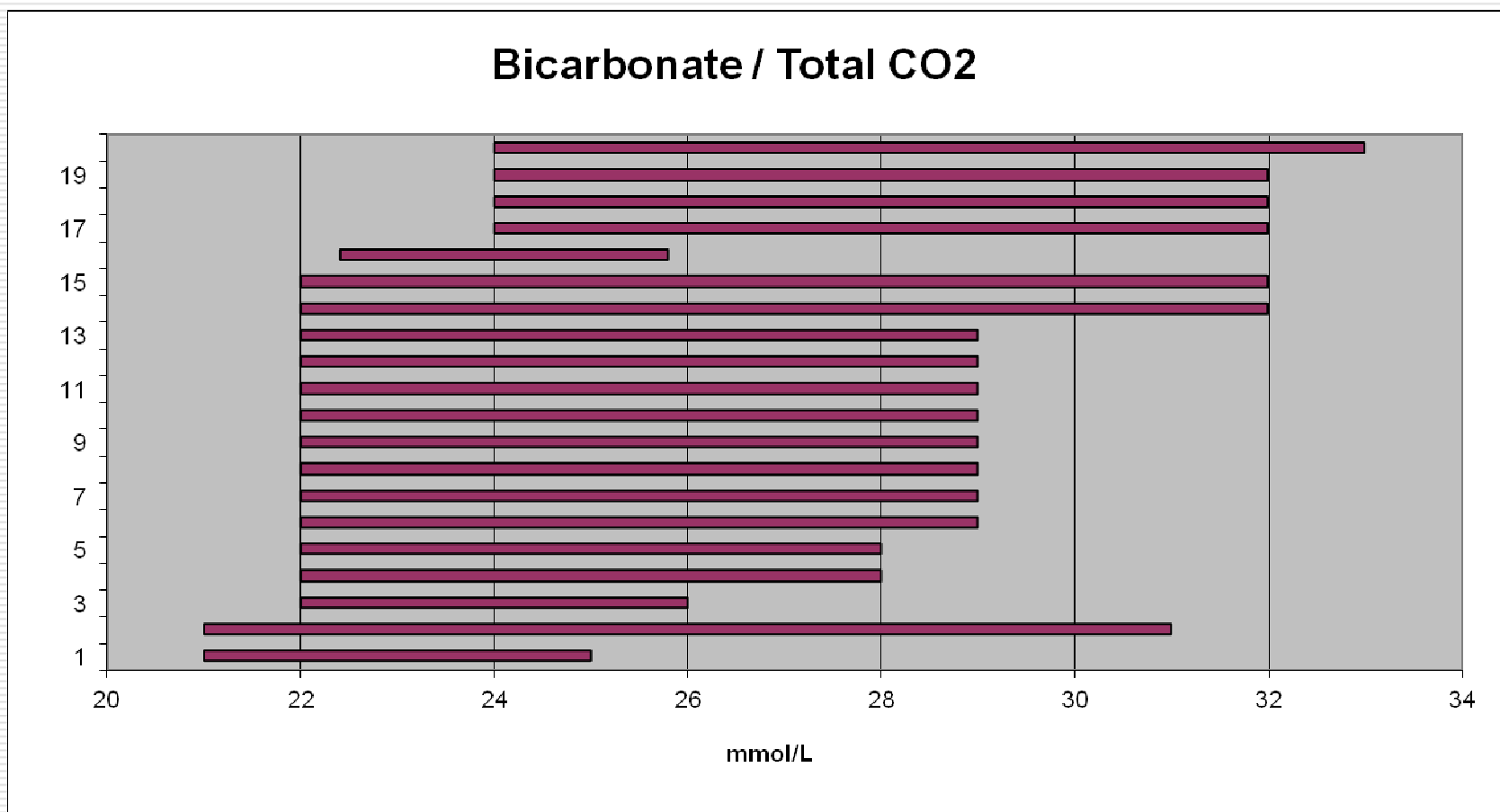
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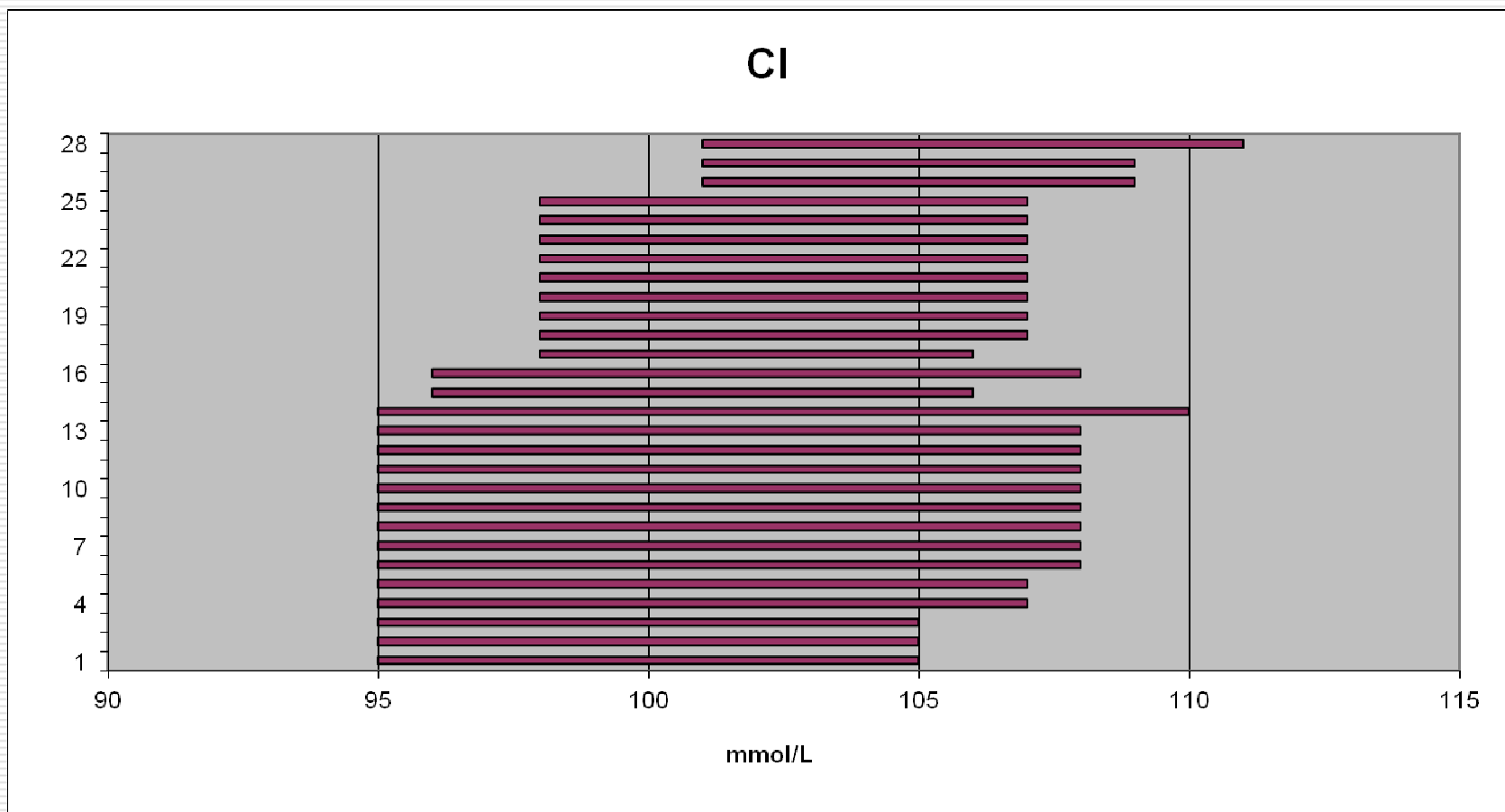
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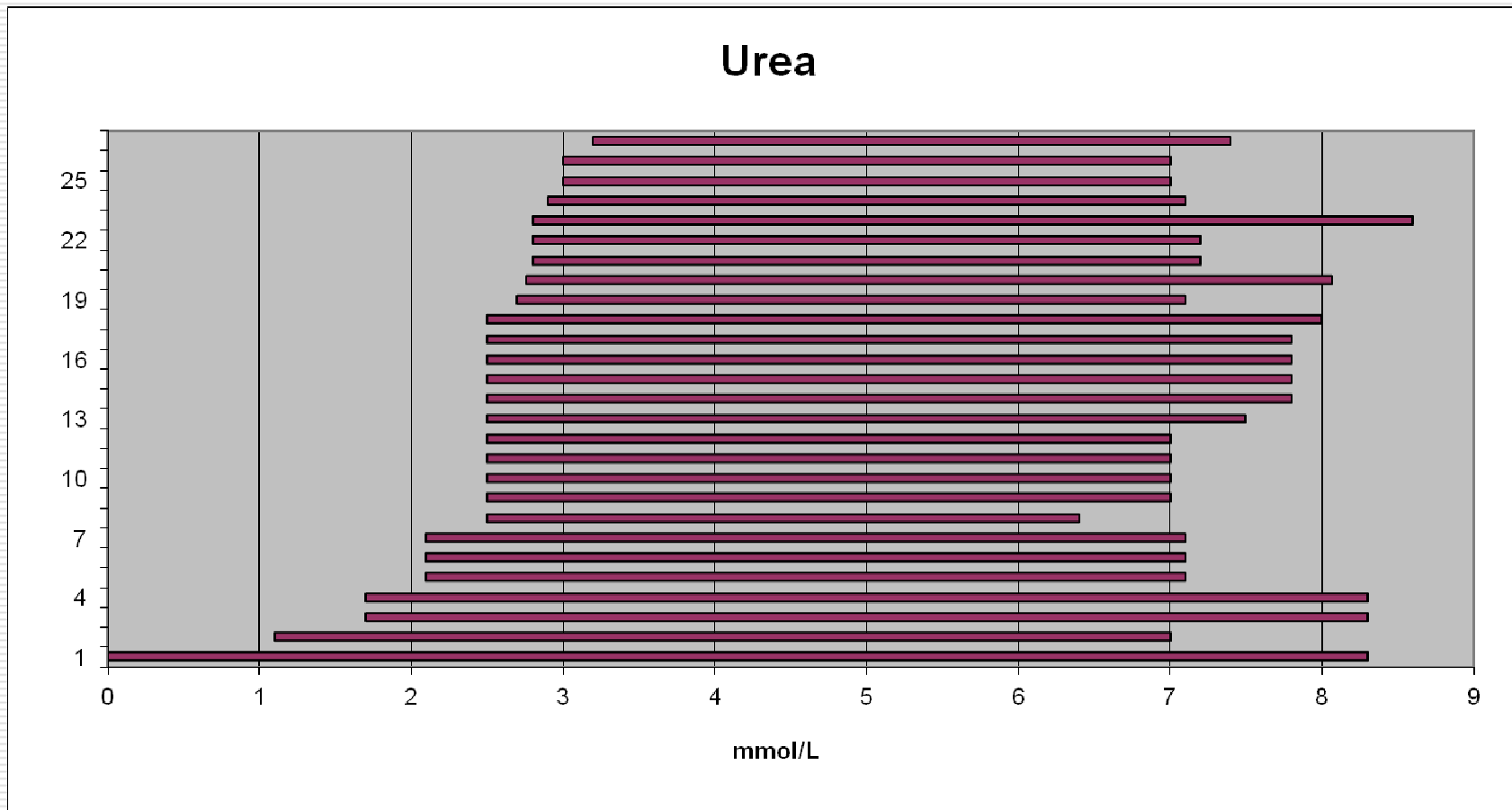
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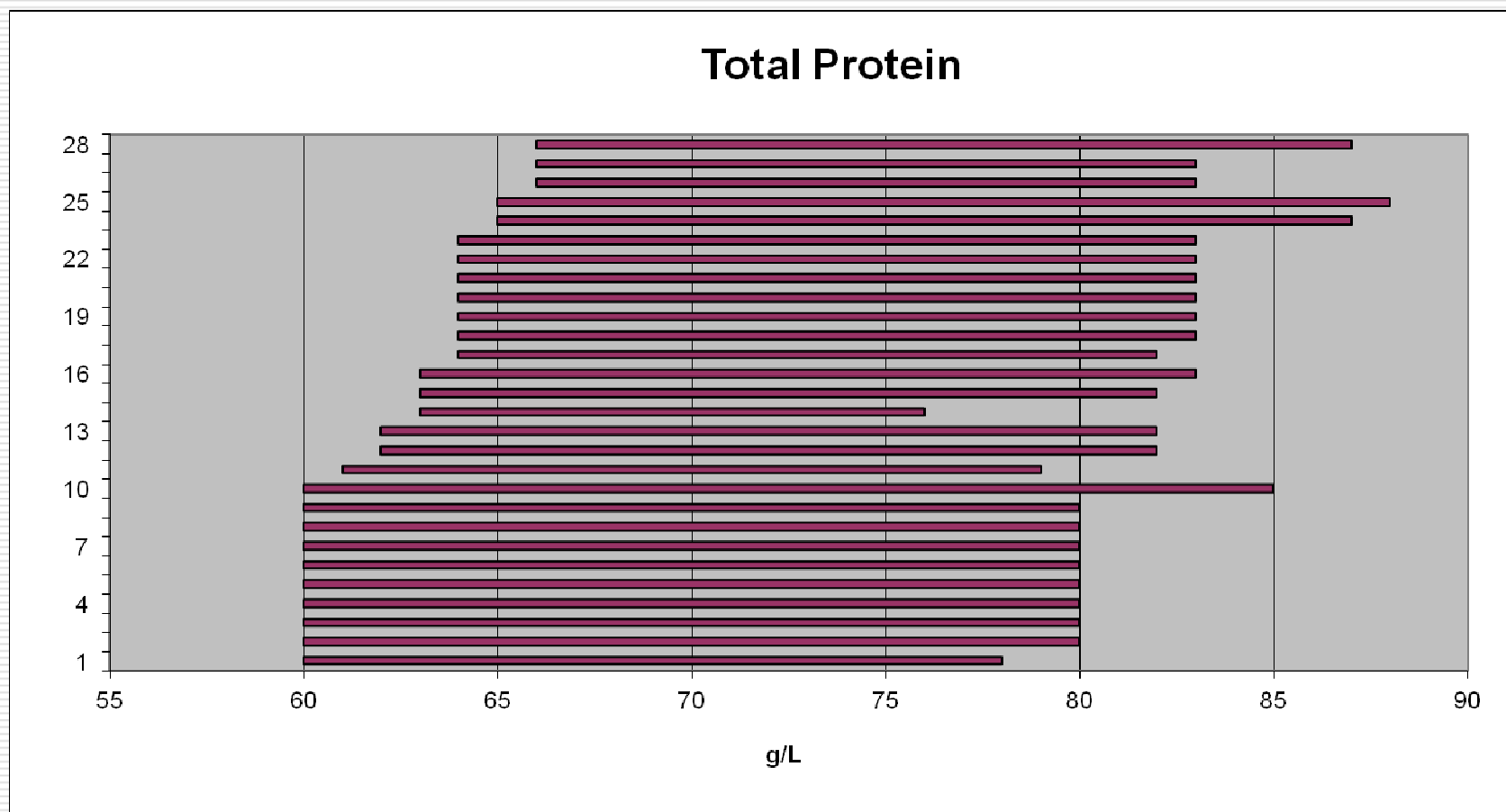
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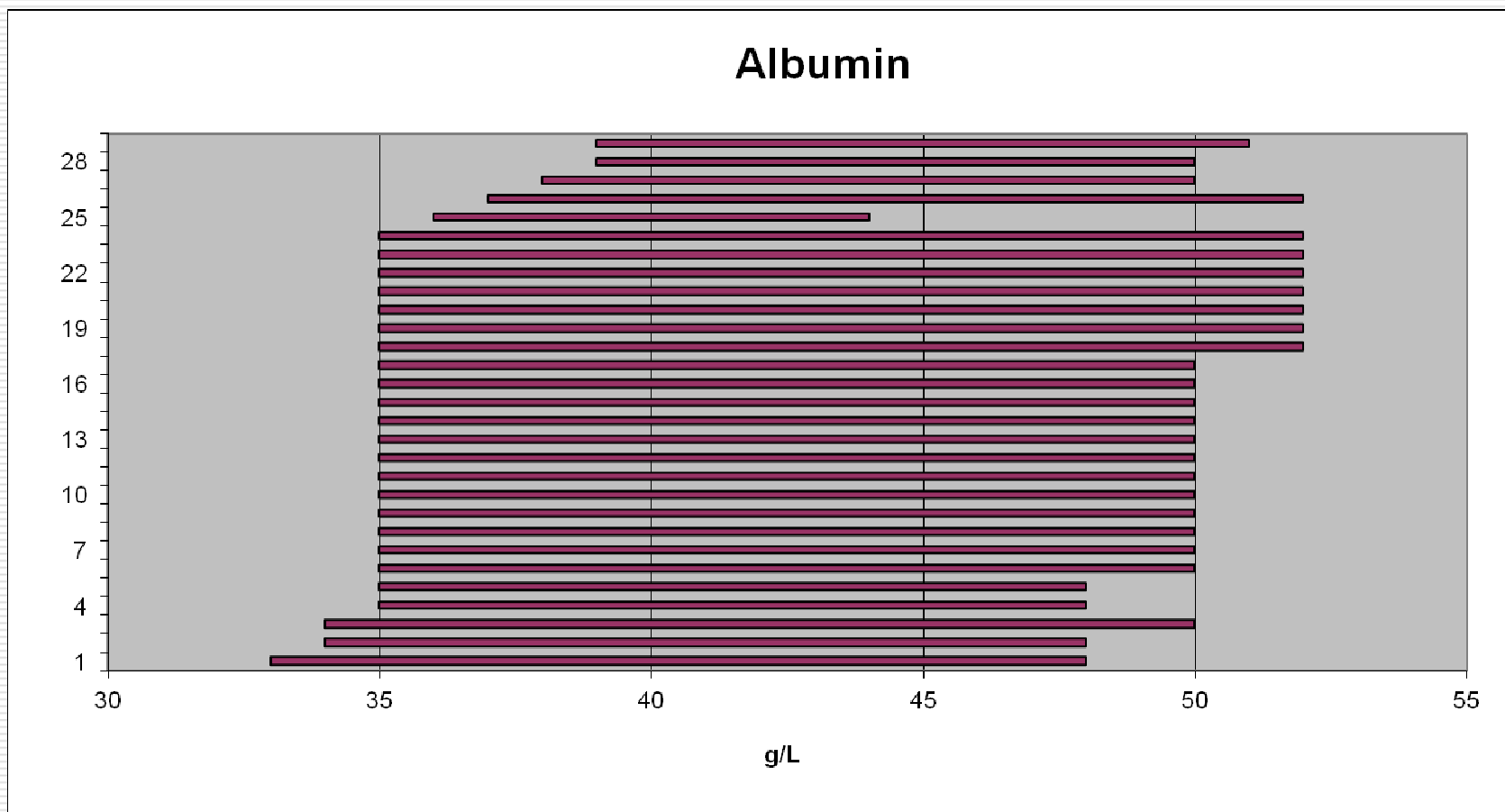
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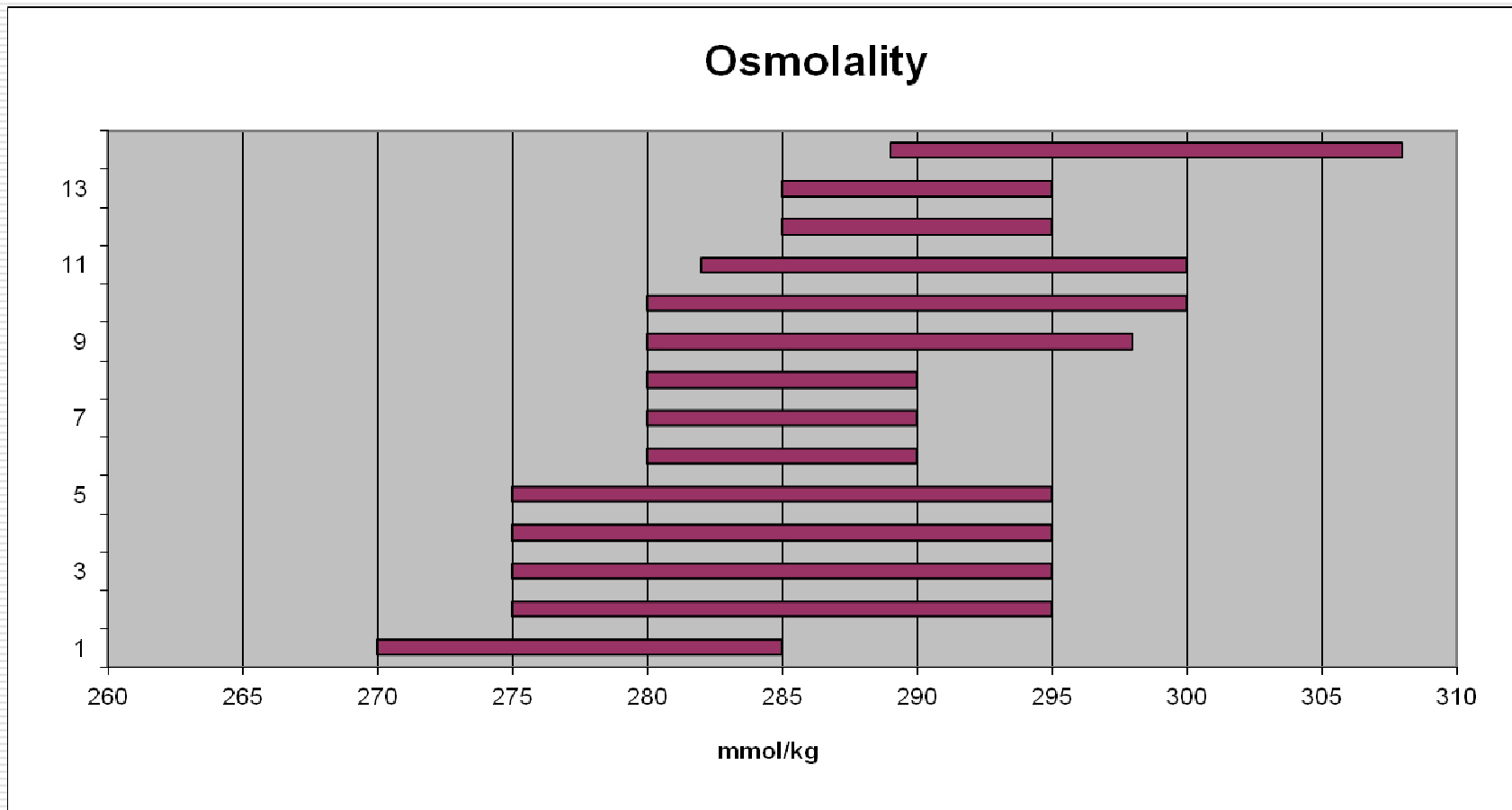
# Harmonisation of Reference Ranges



# Harmonisation of Reference Ranges



# Harmonisation of Reference Ranges



# Harmonisation - What next for us?

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- Gather remainder of data
- Collate , review, and share collected data (anonymised).
- National review of reference range harmonisation
  - ?national meeting
  - ?other