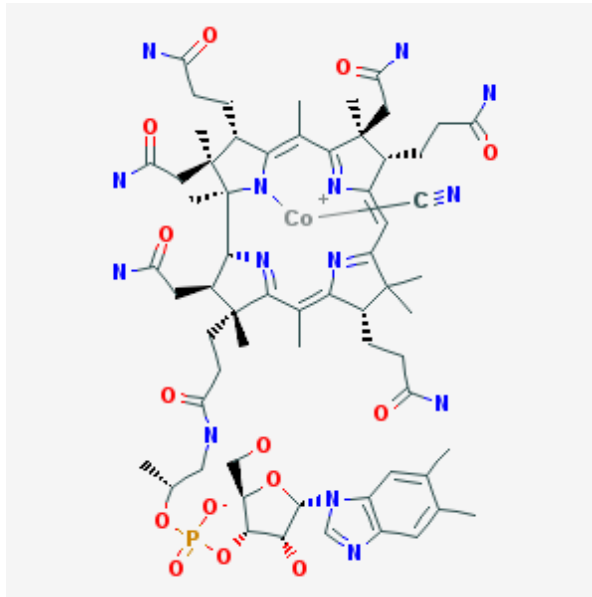




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# Elévation artéfactuelle de la Vitamine B12



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# Introduction

- Vitamin B12 (or cyanocobalamin) is a (not very) small water-soluble molecule
- Play a vital role as coenzyme (methionine synthase and L-methylmalonyl–coenzyme A mutase):

In erythropoiesis, and in the methylation necessary for cell metabolism and DNA synthesis (also in myelin sheath synthesis)

- Exists in several forms & in circulation, B12 is bound to 2 binding proteins, namely holo-haptocorrin (80-95%) and holo-transcobalamin (5-20%)

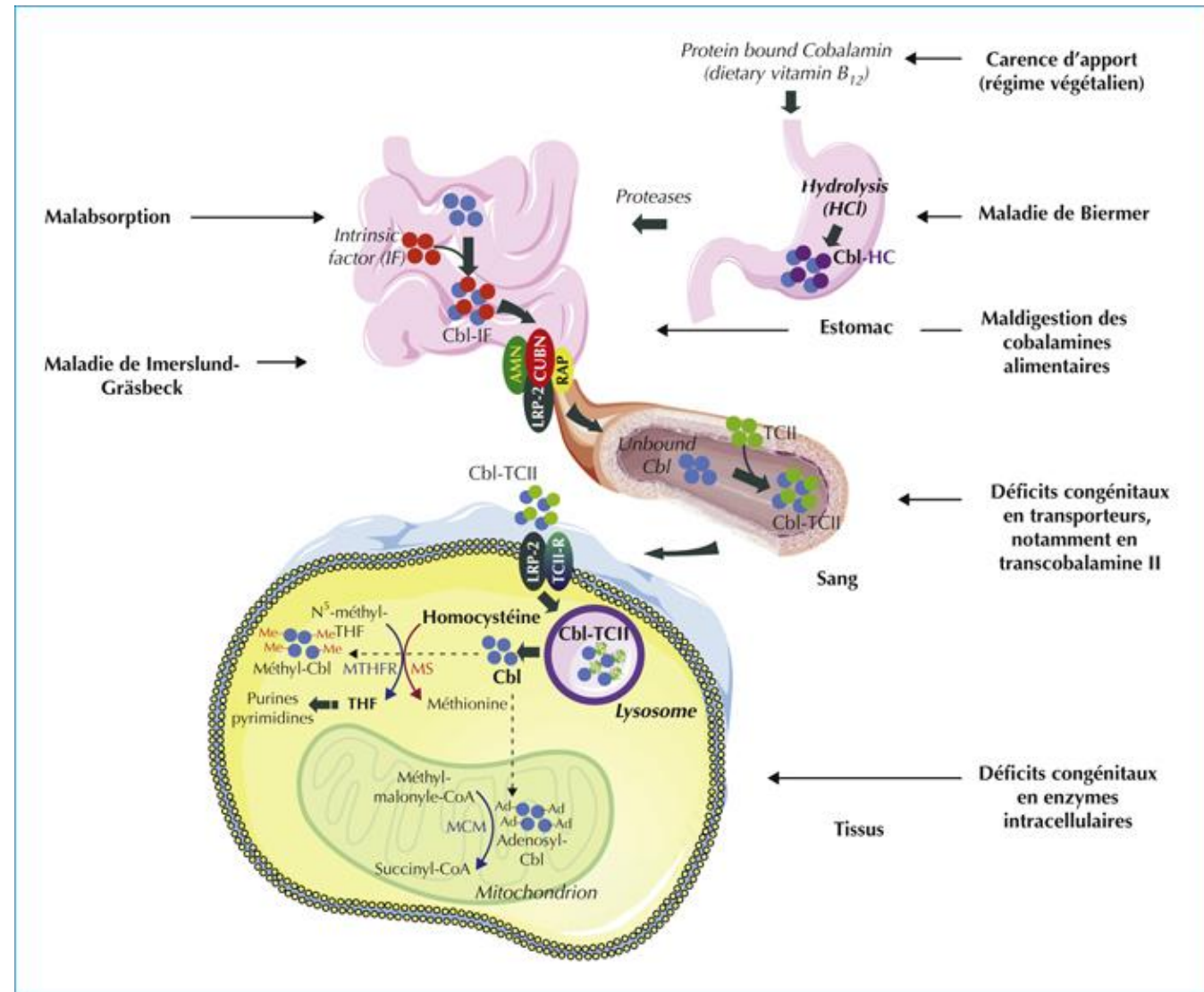
Only the B12 found holo-transcobalamin is bioactive

# DNA, RNA & ... methylation + DNA synthesis

- CBC: Hb? ↓ & MCV? ↑
- B12 level in serum/plasma: Total B12 and/or active B12 levels

## To complete metabolic profile

- MMA (NI < 0.4 μmol/L) & HCY (NI < 13 μmol/L) levels: early detection of deficiencies; Masked deficiencies
- IF antibodies: Autoimmune screening; Pernicious anemia?
- Schilling test: Checking if the body has enough IF using radio-B12



## Decreased Levels:

- Severe malabsorption (*i.e. pernicious anemia, total or partial gastrectomy*)
- Mild malabsorption (*i.e. acid blocking drugs, mild atrophic gastritis*)
- Dietary deficiency (*i.e. VEGE*)
- Abuse of nitrous oxide

## Increased Levels

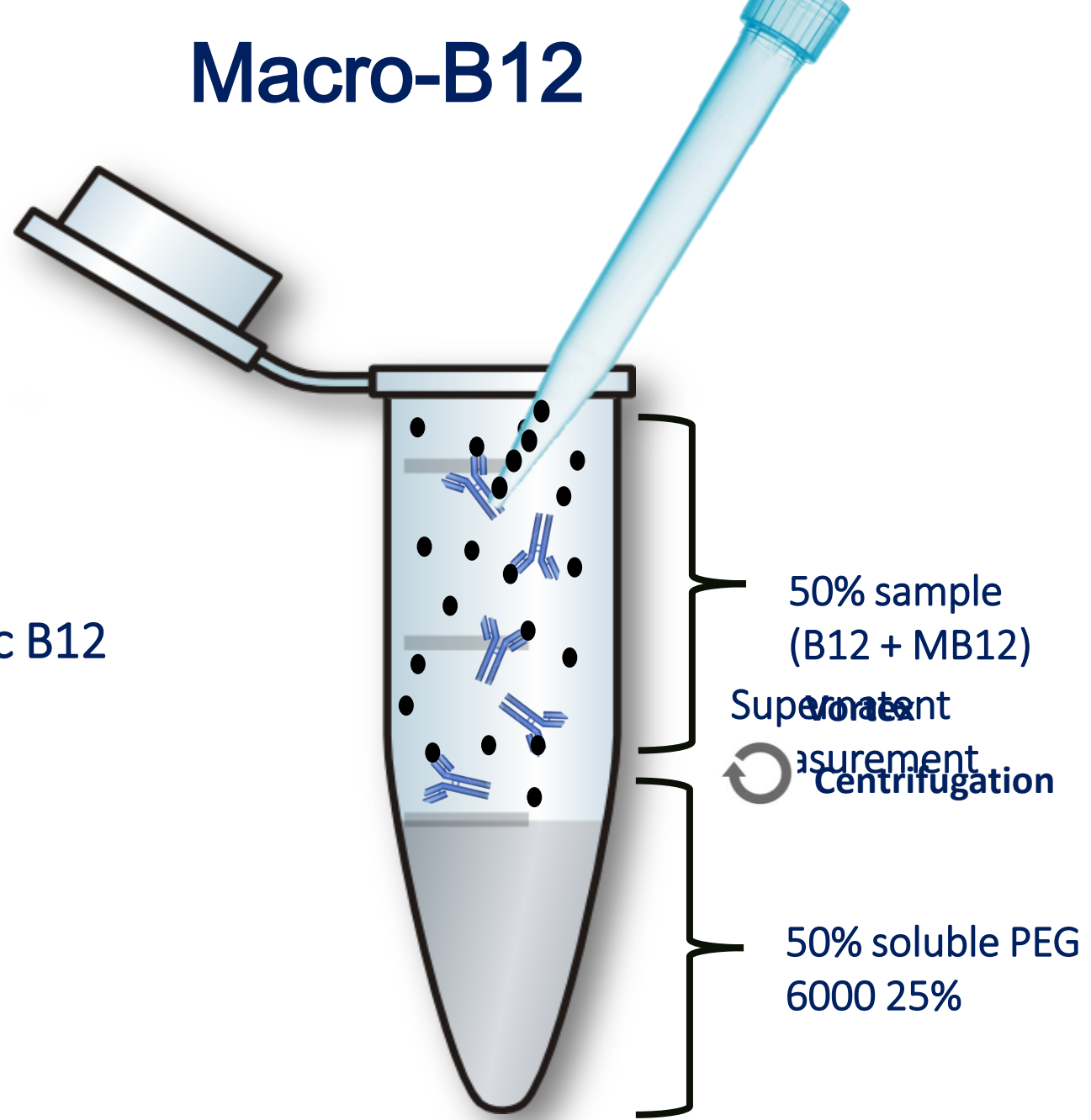
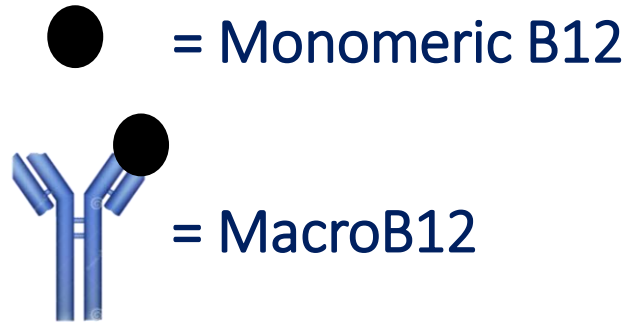
- Observed in hematologic disorders (*i.e. promyelocytic leukemia, polycythemia vera or hypereosinophilic syndrome*)
- In liver disease
- In subjects taking supplementation
- Black people and Latin-American people
- Due to certain types of interference (*i.e. heterophilic antibodies and macro-B12*)



# Why studying

- Received several calls from clinicians who were not able to explain high levels of B12
- Goal: Investigating the possible presence of macro forms in elevated B12 samples
- Why? To avoid misdiagnosis and unneeded clinical decisions
- How? PEG procedure and comparing the results to healthy volunteers
- Randomly collected samples:  $> 1,476$  pmol/L (50 samples)
- From Nov2018 to Jan2019

# Macro-B12





# Macro-B12



*Dosage*



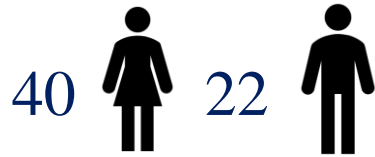
*Dosage*



● = Monomeric B12

# First Strategy: % Recovery in Healthy Volunteers

HVs: 20 to 60 years old



$$\text{Recovery \%} = \frac{\text{Post} - \text{PEG} \times 2}{\text{Baseline}} \times 100$$

Reference ranges for healthy subjects (ROCHE) pmol/L	LOQ (ROCHE) pmol/L
B12	B12
Min: 145.0	Min: 37.0
Max: 569.0	Max: 1,476.0

## Observed Recovery

68.3% (90% CI = 65.5 – 71.6%) to 108.4% (90% CI = 103.3 – 113.1%)

Unpublished data, under review



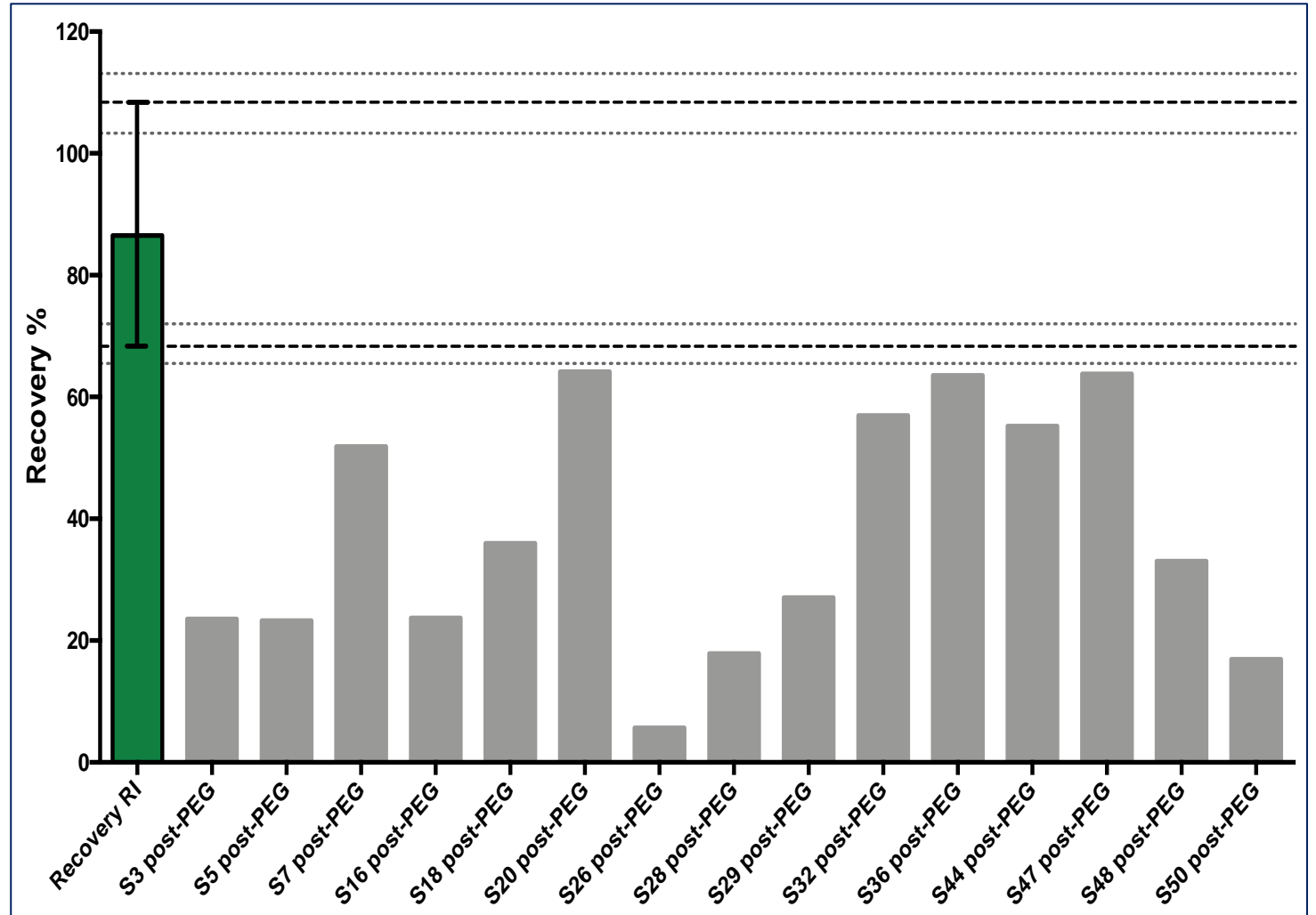
# Second Strategy: Reference interval in HVs

- Idea? Based on Smith & Fahie-Wilson's Study (ClinChem, 2010): Macroprolactin study & advantage of RI to increase diagnostic specificity
- Why? True recovery % in our cohort: Laborious, expensive, time consuming and misleading
- How: Absolute post-PEG values taken into account; using robust data to establish the lower/Upper limits and 90% CI in the HVs
- Based on the post-PEG RI: (1) supraphysiological, (2) normalized, (3) infraphysiological B12 samples

122.1 (90% CI = 106.2 – 142.0) to 514.4 (90% CI = 454.9 – 578.6) pmol/L

# PRV of macro-B12 according to 65.5% cut-off

- 50 patients with serum B12 >1,476 pmol/L were randomly chosen to check out if there is any interferences?
- In 15 macro forms cases:  
11 ♀ & 4 ♂  
  
15/50 = 30% of likelihood
- Results obtained after PEG treatment in highly elevated B12 samples, using recovery

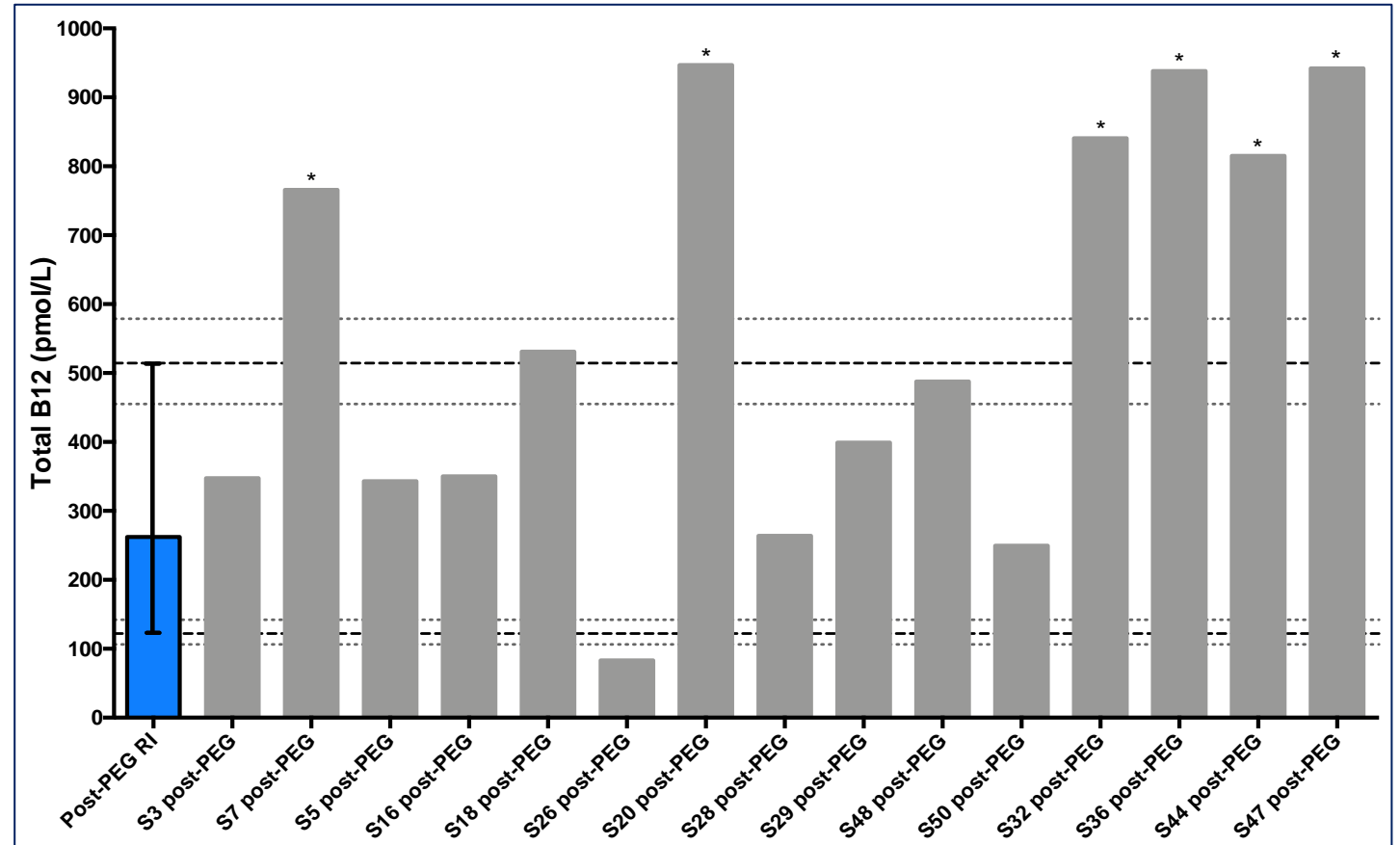


Unpublished data, under review

# PRV of macro-B12 according to RI obtained in HVs

- And how were the patients classified according to the post-PEG RI?
- Results obtained following the PEG precipitation procedure in elevated B12 samples, using post-PEG RI

9/50 = 18% of likelihood



# Size exclusion chromatography vs Recovery % and PEG RI

<b>Patient</b>	<b>Recovery (%; Cobas®)</b>	<b>Post-PEG (pmol/L; Cobas®)</b>	<b>SEC</b>
S3	23.5	347.3	Insufficient volume
S5	23.2	343.0	Insufficient volume
S7	51.9	765.6	Insufficient volume
S16	23.7	350.0	Immune complexes
S18	36.0	530.8	Immune complexes
S20	64.2	946.9	No immune complexes
S26	5.6	83.1	Immune complexes
S28	17.9	263.9	Immune complexes
S29	27.1	399.3	Immune complexes
S32	57.0	840.6	No immune complexes
S36	63.6	938.1	No immune complexes
S44	55.2	815.2	No immune complexes
S47	63.8	942.0	No immune complexes
S48	33.1	487.8	Immune complexes
S50	16.9	249.6	Immune complexes

Unpublished data, under review

# Comparisons:

- Comparing only **40 samples > 1,476 pmol/L** :
- **Architect<sup>®</sup> i2000** analyzer classified **11 samples** with macroB12 as compared to 12 on the Cobas<sup>®</sup> according the Recoveries (27% vs 30%)
- Comparison statistic test between 2 analyzers:

Before ( $p$  0.2500) and post-PEG ( $p$  0.5791): Not significantly different (weighted kappa was 0.955)

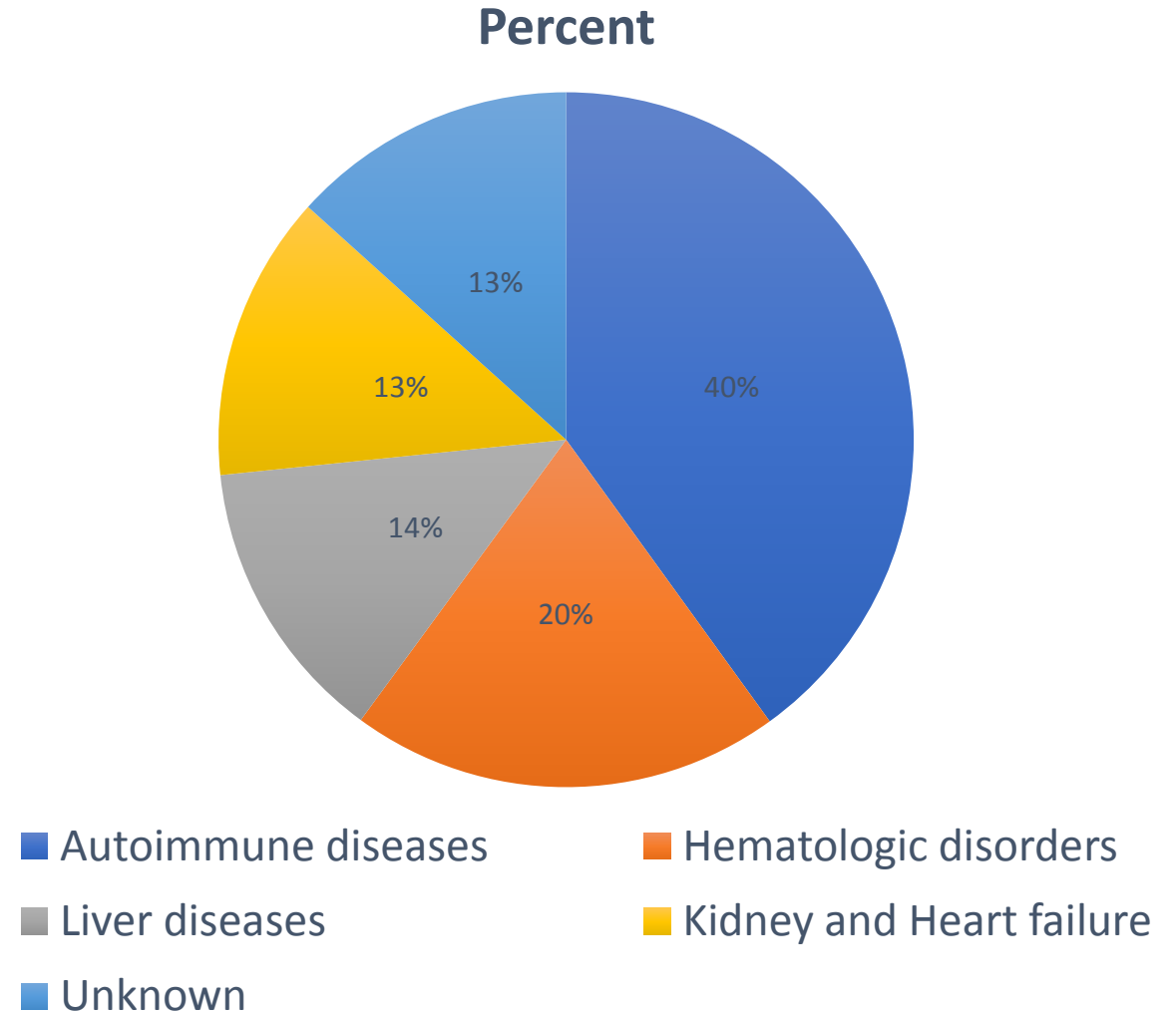
❖ Two cases have also been published with a Siemens analyzer

Post-PEG (pmol/L; Cobas <sup>®</sup> )	Post-PEG (pmol/L; Architect <sup>®</sup> )
347.3	Insufficient volume
343.0	Insufficient volume
765.6	Insufficient volume
350.0	307.0
530.8	522.5
946.9	909.2
83.1	187.5
263.9	277.5
399.3	405.9
840.6	764.6
938.1	888.6
815.2	606.6
942.0	903.3
487.8	433.9
249.6	252.4

Unpublished data, under review

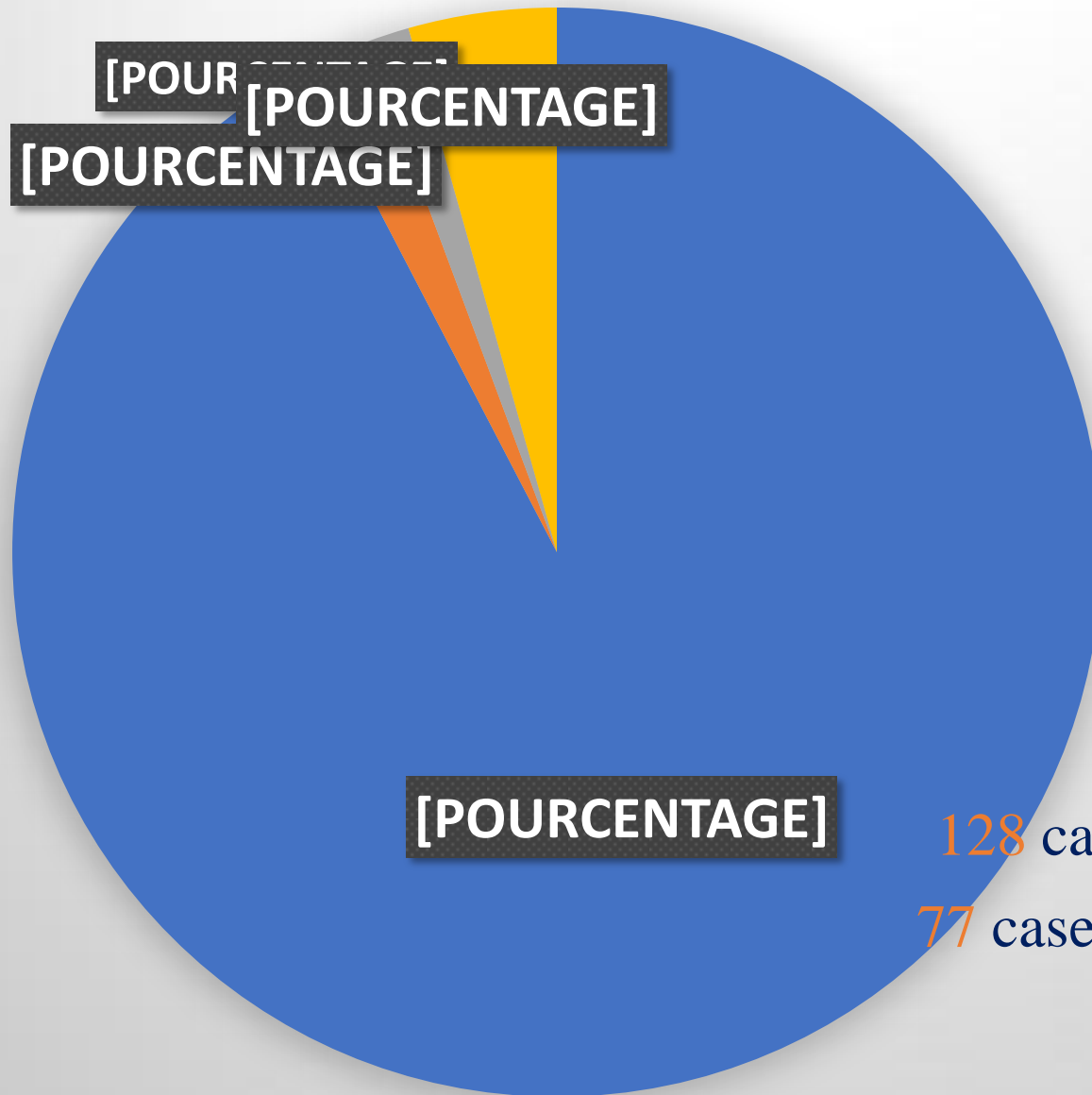
# What do they suffer from?

- Hemochromatosis;
- Rheumatoid Arthritis;
- Juvenile rheumatism;
- Crohn's disease;
- Autoimmune hepatitis;
- Horton (autoimmune steatosis)
- Liver diseases (Steatosis, Fibrosis)
- Non-dietary and aplastic normocytic anemia;
- T-ALL (under chemo + Neupogen);
- Diverticulosis;
- RF, severe CF;
- Neurological disorders
- Unknown etiology



Unpublished data, under review

# Vitamin B12: 2017's DATA (Hypothesis)



tot Vit B12 ordered	20158
>2000 pg/mL	427
>1500-1999 pg/mL	280
>1000-1499 pg/mL	959

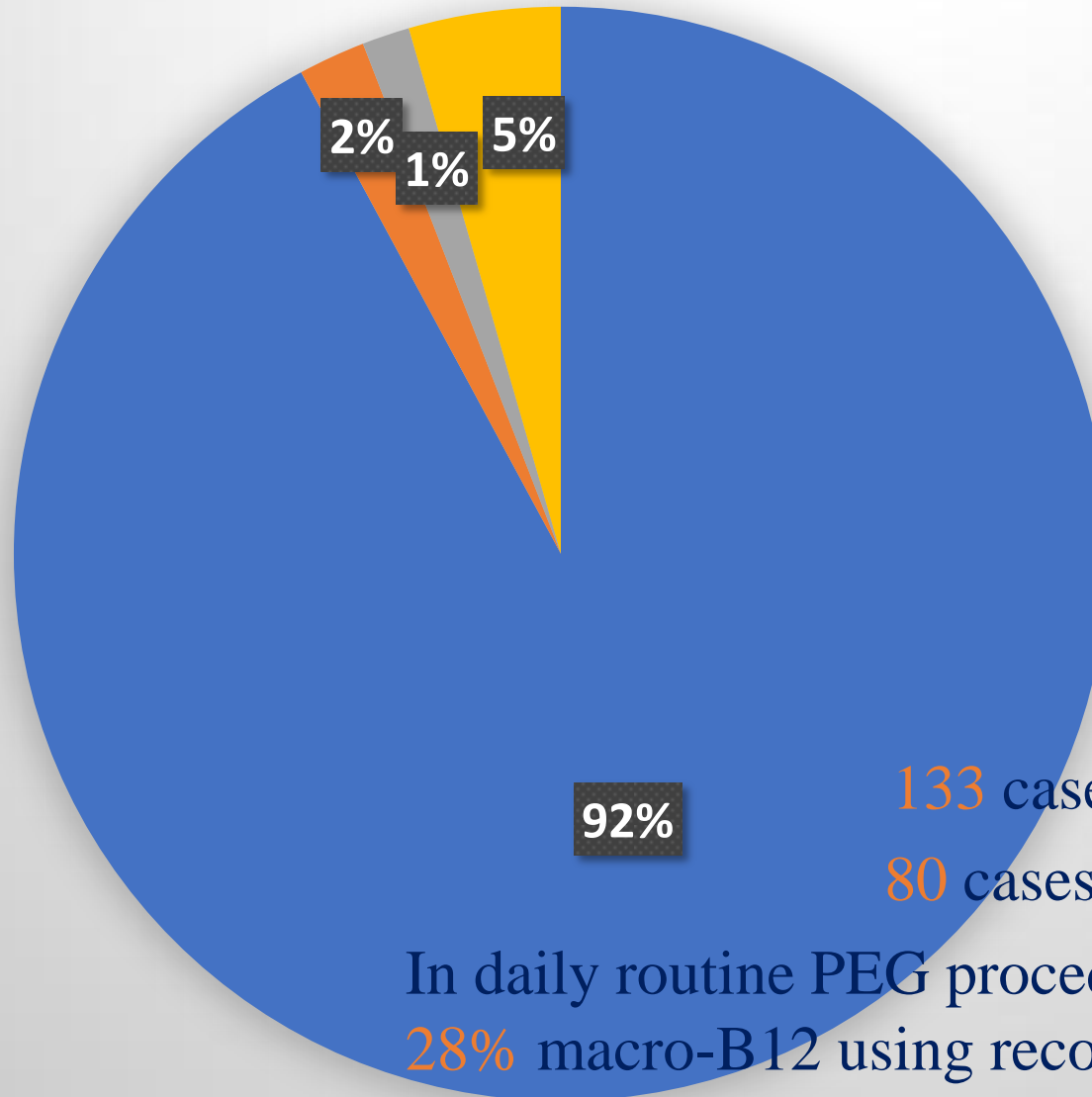
- tot Vit B12 orderd
- >2000
- >1500-1999
- >1000-1499

128 cases of macro B12 using % cut-off  
77 cases of macro B12 using post-PEG RI

Unpublished data, under review



# Vitamin B12: 2018 DATA(Hypothesis)



tot Vit B12 ordered	20568
>2000 pg/mL	443
>1500-1999 pg/mL	314
>1000-1499 pg/mL	1001

■ tot Vit B12 orderd

■ >2000

■ >1500-1999

■ >1000-1499

133 cases of macro B12 using % cut-off

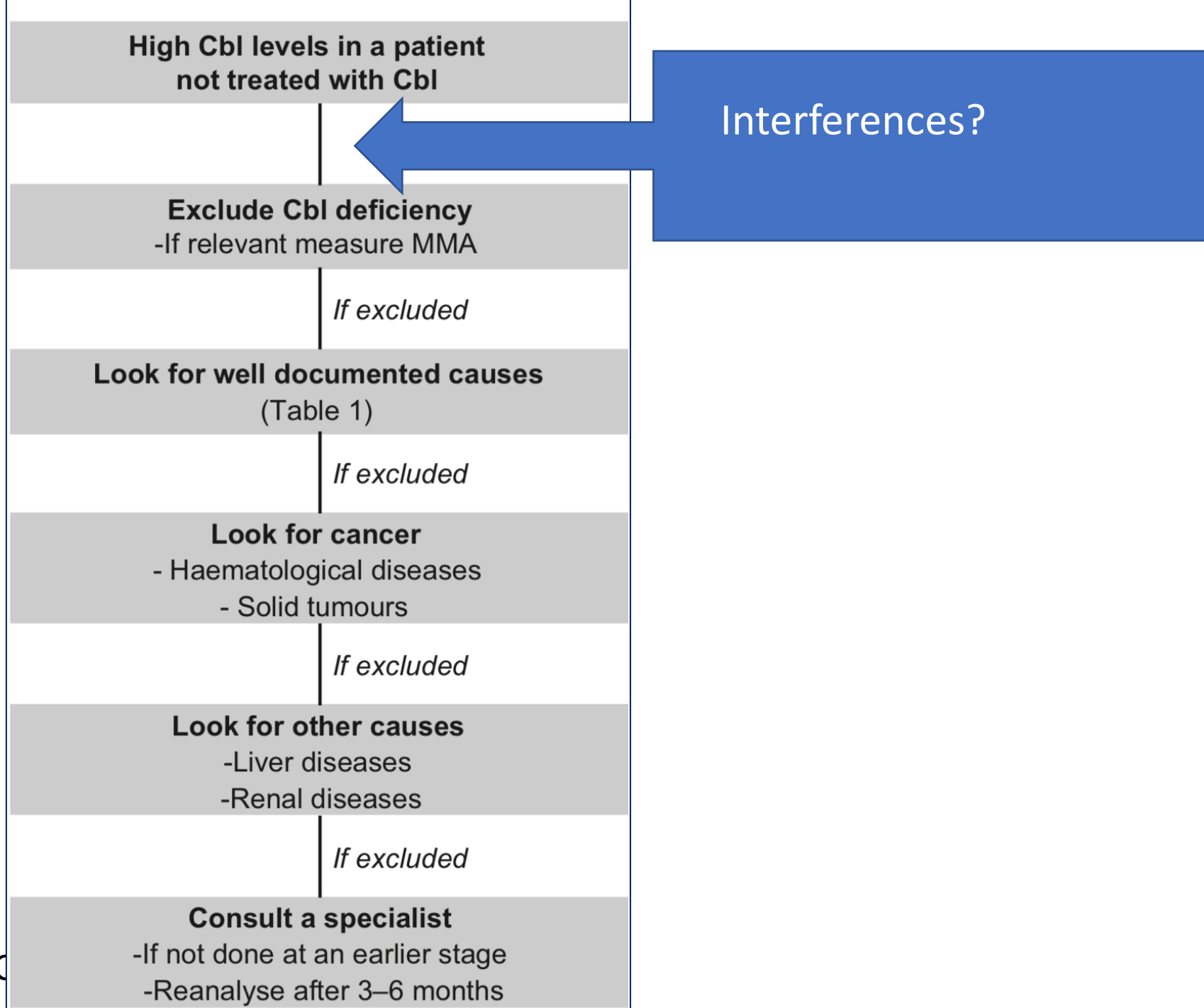
80 cases of macro B12 using post-PEG RI

In daily routine PEG procedure for samples > 1500 pg/mL:

28% macro-B12 using recoveries and 15% using PEG RI

Unpublished data, under review

# Conclusion



# Conclusion

- 1- The prevalence is may be to high (18%)
- 2- At least, all B12 samples  $> 1,476$  pmol/L have to be subject of PEG treatment
- 3- Dilution is not recommended
- 4- It's not analyzer dependent
- 5- To be continued...

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