

Table 3 - Interpretation of the results of iron studies

	Iron	Transferrin saturation	Ferritin	Soluble transferrin receptor	Trial of oral iron
Iron deficiency	Decreased	Decreased	Decreased	Increased	Haemoglobin normalises
Iron deficiency + acute phase response	Decreased	Normal or decreased	"Normal" <100 µg/L	Increased	Partial response
Acute phase response	Decreased	Decreased	Increased	Normal	No response
Iron overload	Increased	Increased	Increased	Decreased	Not appropriate