

Understanding your pet's blood work

Blood tests help us determine your pet's health status and causes of illness accurately, safely, and quickly let us monitor the progress of medical treatments. **A checkmark in any box below indicates a significant abnormality on your pet's blood work.** On the back of this sheet are remarks from the doctor with more details on your pet's blood work results.

Complete Blood Count (CBC)

The most common test, a CBC, gives information on hydration status, anemia, infection, the blood's clotting ability, and the immune system's ability to respond.

HCT (Hematocrit) measures the percentage of red blood cells to detect anemia and dehydration.

Hb and MCHC (hemoglobin and mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration) measures hemoglobin, the oxygen-carrying pigment of red blood cells (corpuscles).

GRANS and L/M (granulocytes and lymphocytes/monocytes) are specific types of white blood cells.

WBC (white blood cell) count classifies and measures the body's immune cells. Increases or decreases indicate certain diseases or infections.

EOS (eosinophils) are a specific type of white blood cells that, if elevated, may indicate allergic or parasitic conditions.

PLT (platelet count) measures cells that help stop bleeding by forming clots.

RETICS (reticulocytes) are immature red blood cells. High or low levels help classify anemias.

Serum Chemistry Profile

These common tests evaluate organ function, electrolyte status, hormone levels, and more.

Wellness Profile

GLU (glucose) is a blood sugar. Elevates levels may indicate diabetes mellitus or stress. Low levels can cause collapse, seizures, or coma.

BUN (blood urea nitrogen) reflects kidney function. An increased blood level is called azotemia and can be caused by kidney, liver, and heart disease, urethral obstruction, shock, and dehydration.

CREA (creatinine) reflects kidney function. This test helps distinguish between kidney and nonkidney causes of elevated BUN.

TP (total protein) indicates hydration status and provides information about the liver, kidneys, and infectious diseases.

ALB (albumin) is a serum protein that helps evaluate hydration, hemorrhage, and intestinal, liver, and kidney health.

GLOB (globulin) is a blood protein that often increases with chronic inflammation and certain disease states.

ALT (alanine aminotransferase) is a sensitive indicator of active liver damage but doesn't indicate the cause.

Comprehensive Profile

(Includes Wellness Profile and the following)

ALKP (alkaline phosphatase) elevations may indicate liver damage, Cushing's disease, and active bone growth in young pets. Mild to moderate elevations in older animals is not uncommon.

GGT (gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase) is an enzyme that, when elevated, indicates liver disease or corticosteroid excess.

TBIL (total bilirubin) elevations may indicate liver or hemolytic disease. This test helps identify bile duct problems and certain types of anemia.

AMYL (amylase) elevations may show pancreatitis or kidney disease.

CHOL (cholesterol) is used to supplement diagnosis of hypothyroidism, liver disease, Cushing's disease, and diabetes mellitus.

LIP (lipase) is an enzyme that may indicate pancreatitis when elevated.

PHOS (phosphorus) elevations are often associated with kidney disease, hyperthyroidism, and bleeding disorders.

Ca (calcium) deviations can indicate a variety of diseases. Tumors, hyperparathyroidism, kidney disease, and low albumin are just a few of the conditions that alter serum calcium.

Na (sodium) is an electrolyte lost with vomiting, diarrhea, and kidney or Addison's disease. This test also helps indicate hydration status.

K (potassium) is an electrolyte lost with vomiting, diarrhea, or excessive urination. Increase levels may indicate kidney failure, Addison's disease, dehydration, and urethral obstruction. High levels can lead to cardiac arrest and death.

Cl (chloride) is an electrolyte often lost with vomiting and Addison's disease. Elevations often indicate dehydration.

T4 (thyroxine) is a thyroid hormone. Decreased levels often signal hypothyroidism in dogs, while high levels indicate hyperthyroidism in cats.