What is a CMP?

A CMP is a simple and safe blood test. The test provides important information about your body's chemical balance and metabolism, which is the way in which your body uses food and energy. Some of the tests included in the CMP provide information about your:

- Kidneys
- Electrolytes
- Calcium
- Protein
- Liver
- Blood sugar

How do I read my results?

Test	Purpose	Normal ranges
Albumin	Albumin is an important protein found in the blood.	3.4 to 5.4 g/dL (34 to 54 g/L)
ALP (alkaline phosphatase)	This is an important enzyme found in the liver, kidneys, and bones.	20 to 130 U/L
ALT (alanine aminotransferase)	ALT is an important enzyme found mostly in the liver.	4 to 36 U/L

AST (aspartate aminotransferase)	AST is an important enzyme found in the liver, heart, and muscles.	8 to 33 U/L
BUN (blood urea nitrogen)	Urea nitrogen is a normal waste product that occurs from the breakdown of protein. The kidneys remove it from the blood, so if kidney function slows down, BUN levels rise.	6 to 20 mg/dL (2.14 to 7.14 mmol/L)
Serum calcium	This is a mineral stored mainly in your bones.	8.5 to 10.2 mg/dL (2.13 to 2.55 mmol/L)
Chloride 8	An electrolyte used to help control fluid in the body.	96 to 106 mEq/L (96 to 106 mmol/L)
CO2 (carbon dioxide)	An electrolyte used to help control fluid in the body.	23 to 29 mEq/L (23 to 29 mmol/L)
Creatinine	Creatinine is a waste product from muscle wear and tear that everyone has in their blood. Too much may indicate kidney issues. Doctors use these results to help determine eGFR .	0.6 to 1.3 mg/dL (53 to 114.9 µmol/L)
Glucose (sugar)	Sugar is an important energy source for the body but high or uncontrolled blood sugar can cause damage. This test checks for diabetes, the leading cause of kidney failure.	70 to 100 mg/dL (3.9 to 5.6 mmol/L)
Potassium	Potassium is a mineral found in many foods that help keep heartbeats regular and muscles working right.	3.7 to 5.2 mEq/L (3.70 to 5.20 mmol/L)
Sodium	Sodium is a mineral found in foods and is a major part of table salt. If the kidneys are not healthy, sodium and fluid can build up in the body.	135 to 145 mEq/L (135 to 145 mmol/L)
Total bilirubin	Found in a fluid made by the liver.	0.1 to 1.2 mg/dL (2 to 21 µmol/L)
Total protein	Protein helps build muscle, heal, fight infection, and stay healthy.	6.0 to 8.3 g/dL (60 to 83 g/L)

LABORATORY TESTS

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Albumin	3.5-5.0 g/dL SI units: 35-50 g/L		WNL for the laboratory or ideal >4.0	High: severe dehydration, albumin infusion Low: fluid overload, chronic liver/pancreatic disease, steatorrhea, nephrotic syndrome, protein-energy malnutrition, inflammatory GI disease, infection
Alkaline Phosphatase	30-85 IU/L SI Units: 42-128 U/L		WNL	High: renal osteodystrophy, healing of fractures, malignancies Low: congenital hypophosphatemia, possibly in kwashiorkor, general debility, anemia, nephrotic syndrome
Aluminum	<7 μg/L		<20 μg/L >60 perform DFO test	High: Ingestion of aluminum-containing medications Other potential sources: parenteral fluids, injections, antiperspirants, dialysate
Ammonia Levels	15-110 μg/dL SI Units: 47-65 μmol/L		WNL	High: primary hepatocellular disease, Reye's syndrome, portal HTN, GI bleeding/obstruction w/mild liver disease Low: essential or malignant hypertension

Reprinted with permission from National Kidney Foundation, Inc.

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
\mathbf{B}_{12}	100-700 pg/mL SI Units: 74-517 pmol/L		WNL	High: leukemia, polycythemia vera, severe liver dysfunction Low: pernicious anemia, atrophic gastritis, malabsorption syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, Zollinger-Ellison syndrome, achlorhydria, pregnancy, vitamin C or folic acid deficiency
Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)	10-20 mg/dL SI Units: 3.6-7.1 mmol/L		60-80 mg/dL (anuric, well dialyzed and eating adequate protein)	High: w/excessive protein intake, GI bleeding, dehydration, hypercatabolism, CHF (a θ in cardiac output causes a θ GFR), transplant rejection, inadequate dialysis Low: hepatic failure, over-hydration, acute low protein intake, malabsorption, τ secretion of anabolic hormones

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
*May be adjusted for low albumin, but value is questionable	9.0-10.5 mg/dL SI Units: 2.25-2.75 mmol/L		WNL (low end)	High: excess vit D/calcium, τ GI absorption, osteolytic disease, excess vit A, carcinoma, immobilization, primary SHPT, ABD, dehydration, prolonged use of tourniquet Low: insufficient vit D, during bone building, malabsorption, post-parathyroidectomy, long term Dilantin therapy, hypoparathyroidism with low albumin (lack of carrier), but ionized is usually WNL
Ceruloplasmin (Cp)	23-43 mg/dL		WNL	High: acute inflammatory response, cancer, biliary cirrhosis, pregnancy, copper intoxication Low: nephrotic syndrome, infants, kwashiorkor, sprue, hyperalimentation

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Carbon Dioxide CO ₂	23-30 mEq/L SI Units: 23-30 mmol/L		WNL τ22	High: metabolic alkalosis Low: metabolic acidosis
Chloride	100-106 mEq/L SI Units: 98-106 mmol/L		WNL	High: excess salt, dehydration, some forms of metabolic acidosis, excessive use of chloride-containing meds, primary hypoparathyroidism Low: diabetic acidosis, K ⁺ deficiency, metabolic alkalosis, excessive sweating, starvation, abnormal GI losses, chronic pyelonephritis, dilution (fluid excess), chloride is affected by the same conditions as sodium/moves in same direction
Cholesterol	<200 mg/dL SI Units: <5.2 mmol/L		WNL	High: high chol/saturated fat diet, disorders of lipid metabolism, nephrotic syndrome, glucocorticoid use Low: acute infection, starvation, PEM
CHr Reticulocyte Hemoglobin Content	24.5-31.8 pg/cell		>29 pg/cell	High: iron supplementation Low: iron deficiency

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Creatinine	0.5-1.1 mg/dL C 0.6-1.2 mg/dL o) SI Units: 44-97 μmol/L C 53-106 μmol/L o		2-15 mg/dL (based on muscle mass, GFR and/or dialysis clearance)	High: muscle damage, catabolism, MI, muscular dystrophy, ARF/CKD, use of cephalothin/cimetidine, excess protein intake, inadequate dialysis, transplant rejection Low: in chronic dialysis <10 may indicate PEM/wasting of muscle
C-Reactive Protein	<0.8 mg/dL SI Units: N/A		WNL	High: arthritis, Crohn's disease, lupus, tissue infarction or damage, acute MI, kidney or bone marrow transplant rejection, soft tissue trauma, bacterial infection, postoperative wound infection, UTI, TB, malignant disease
Fecal Fat	<5 gm/24 hr SI Units: N/A		WNL	High: cystic fibrosis, malabsorption, short- gut syndrome, maldigestion due to obstruction of pancreatic or biliary tree, pancreatic insufficiency or fibrosis

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Ferritin	12-300 ng/mL o 10-150 ng/mL C SI Units: 12-300 μg/L o 10-150 μg/L C		HD ≥200 ng/mL PD/CKD >100 ng/mL >500 unknown benefit/harm	High: iron overload, many transfusions, dehydration, inflammatory state, falsely elevated in active liver disease Low: iron deficiency
Folic Acid	5-20 μg/mL SI Units: 14-34 mmol/L		WNL	High: pernicious anemia, recent massive blood transfusion, vegetarianism Low: folic acid deficiency, hemolytic anemia, malnutrition, malabsorption, malignancy, liver disease, pregnancy, alcoholism, anorexia nervosa
Globulin	2.3-3.4 g/dL SI Units: 23-35 g/L		WNL	High: infection, liver disease, leukemia, hyperlipidemia Low: malnutrition

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Glucose	70-105 mg/dL		WNL	High: DM, chronic hepatic disease,
(Fasting)	SI Units: 3.9-5.8 mmol/L Peak post prandial capillary glucose <180 mg/dL (<10 mmol/L)		<200 non-fasting	hyperthyroidism, malignancy, acute/ emotional stress, burns, diabetic acidosis, pancreatic insufficiency, glucose intolerance Low: hyperinsulinemia, ETOH abuse, pancreatic tumors, liver failure, pituitary dysfunction, malnutrition, extreme exercise
Hematocrit	42-52% o 37-47% C SI Units: 0.42-0.52 o 0.37-0.47 C volume fraction		33-36% <39%	High: polycythemia, dehydration Low: anemias, blood loss (endogenous & dialysis), CKD, insufficient ESA

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Hemoglobin	14-18 g/dL o•• 12-16 g/dL C SI Units: mmol/L 8.7-11.2 o 7.4-9.9 C		Variable 10-12 g/dL <13g/dL FDA ≤12 g/dL	High: dehydration Low: over-hydration, prolonged iron deficiency, anemias, blood loss, CKD
Hemoglobin A _{le} (Glycosolated hemoglobin GHb, GHB)	Adult: 4-8% "Good" control <7% "Fair" control 10% <6 not desirable SI Units: N/A		WNL <7%	High: newly diagnosed/poorly controlled DM, splenectomy, pregnancy, non-diabetic hyperglycemia Low: hemolytic anemia, chronic blood loss, early CKD

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Iron	60-175 μg/dL o 50-170 μg/dL C SI Units: 13-31 μmol/L		WNL	High: Fe overload, sideroblastic anemias, estrogen/oral contraceptives, hemolysis, τ for 1-2 wks after IV irondose dependent Low: iron deficiency, t iron intake, blood loss; diurnal/day-to-day differences are common, but minimal if sample taken in same time frame
Lipoproteins	HDL:>45 mg/dL o		WNL	High: HDL (familial lipoproteinemia excessive exercise) LDL/VLDL-familial lipoproteinemias, nephrotic syndrome, hypothyroidism, chronic liver disease, poor glycemic control Low: HDL-familial hypolipoproteinemia, hepatocellular disease, hypoproteinemia (malnutrition or nephrotic syndrome) LDL/VLDL-familial hypolipoproteinemia, hypoproteinemia due to severe burns, malabsorption or malnutrition)

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Lymphocyte Count (Total = % Lymphocytes x WBC)	1500-4000 mm ³ SI Units: N/A		WNL Investigate <1200-1500	High: acute viral infections, collagen disease, hyperthyroidism, high altitude Low: malnutrition (synthesis requires adequate calories/protein), adds power to significance of 9 albumin, stress
Magnesium	1.2-2.0 mEq/L SI Units: 0.6-1.0 mmol/L		WNL	High: w/excess intake of Mg ⁺ in water, dialysate, Mg-containing parenteral infusion or OTC meds, dehydration Low: w/some diuretics, ketoacidosis, hypercalcemia, ETOH abuse, refeeding syndrome, diarrhea/malabsorption, malnutrition
Mean Corpuscular Volume (MCV)	80-95 μm ³ SI Units: N/A		WNL	High: folic acid/B ₁₂ deficiency, cirrhosis, reticulocytosis, chronic alcoholism Low: chronic iron deficiency, anemia of chronic disease (MCV levels indicative of anemias: pernicious >120; microcytic <78; often seen with iron deficiency <64)

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Phosphorus	3.0-4.5 mg/dL SI Units: 0.97-1.45 mmol/L		WNL 3.5-5.5 mg/dL (KDIGO rec "towards normal")	High: CKD, osteodystrophy, vit D intoxication, diurnal rhythm - evening or afternoon as much as 2x the am level, excessive intake, inadequate P binder Low: vit D deficiency, low intake, excess P binding, malabsorption/diarrhea/vomiting, alkalosis, diabetic acidosis, diuretic therapy, alcoholism, refeeding syndrome, post parathyroidectomy, osteomalacia
Potassium	3.5-5.0 mEq/L SI Units: 3.5-5.0 mmol/L		WNL 3.5-6.0 mEq/L	High: CKD, tissue destruction, shock, acidosis, dehydration, hyperglycemia, aldosterone antagonistic overuse, diuretics, false τ w/tourniquet, excessive oral intake, inadequate dialysis, inappropriate dialysate K ⁺ , compression/fist clenching prior to sample Low: diuretic therapy, ETOH abuse, diarrhea/ vomiting/laxative or enema abuse, malabsorption, correction of diabetic acidosis

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Prealbumin/ Transthyretin	15-36 mg/dL SI Units: 150-360 mg/L		30 mg/dL	High: administration of corticoids Low: neonate, liver disease, malnutrition, inflammation
Protein, Total	6.4-8.3 g/dL SI Units: 64-83 g/L		WNL	High: dehydration, acute/chronic infectious disease, leukemia/multiple myeloma Low: malnutrition, malabsorption, cirrhosis, steatorrhea, edema, nephrotic syndrome
Intact Parathyroid Hormone (iPTH)	Intact: 10-65 pg/mL SI Units: N/A		KDOQI: 150-300 pg/mL KDIGO: between 2 and 9 x normal limit; avoid extremes	High: hyperparathyroidism, non-PTH producing tumors, lung or kidney cancer, hypocalcemia, malabsorption, vit D deficiency, rickets Low: hypoparathyroidism, hypercalcemia, metastatic bone tumor, sarcoidosis, vit D intoxication, hypomagnesemia

Editorial Note: Variance between third and second generation iPTH depends on the patient-specific level of PTH fragment (7-84) that is measured by the second generation iPTH. Observational studies suggest PTH levels that may increase relative risk of death; however, there are no RCTs that show correction of PTH to a specific level absolutely translates into improved patient level outcomes. KDIGO stresses that there is insufficient research to establish absolute PTH targets, but suggests avoiding extremes and using trends rather than single measurements to guide therapy.

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Reticulocyte Count	0.5%-2%		Variable in response to EPO	Index of bone marrow activity; reflects early change in RBC production High: hemolytic anemia, acute bleed Low: certain anemias due to ineffective erythropoiesis (defic. of iron, B ₁₂ , folic acid, B ₆) or anemia of chronic disease
RBC Count Multiply automatic counter values x 1 million for total #)	million/mm ³ 4.7-6.1 o 4.2-5.4 C SI Units: N/A		WNL	High: high altitude, temporarily w/strong emotion, diurnally, cold shower, reduced plasma volume, dehydration Low: anemia, hemorrhage, infectious disease, iron deficiency
Sodium	136-145 mEq/L SI Units: 136-145 mmol/L		WNL	High: dehydration, diabetes insipidus, often masked by water retention Low: overhydration, inappropriate ADH diuretic use, burns, starvation, adrenal insufficiency, nephritis, hyperglycemia, diabetic acidosis, hyperproteinemia

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
TIBC	250-420 μg/dL		WNL	High: chronic iron deficiency, acute
Transferrin =	SI Units:		Varies with	hepatitis, pregnancy, alcoholism
(0.8 x TIBC) - 43	45-73 μmol/L		iron stores	Low: cirrhosis, malnutrition, collagen or
				chronic disease/infection/inflammation
Transferrin	Adult: mg/dL		WNL	High: chronic iron deficiency, acute
	215-365 o			hepatitis, pregnancy, alcoholism
	250-380 C			Low: cirrhosis, malnutrition, collagen or
	SI Units: N/A			chronic disease/infection/inflammation
Transferrin	20-50% o ••		20%	High: iron overload, pregnancy, acute
Saturation	15-50% C			hepatitis, alcoholism
	SI Units: N/A			Low: cirrhosis, malnutrition, collagen or
				chronic disease/infection, iron deficiency
Triglycerides	40-160 mg/dL o		WNL	High: liver disease, gout, pancreatitis,
	35-135 mg/dL C		<200 mg/dL	ETOH abuse, MI, diabetes, PD, use of
	SI Units:			steroids, nephrotic syndrome
	0.45-1.81 mmol/L			Low: malnutrition, malabsorption
	0.40-1.52 mmol/L			•

LABORATORY TESTS (End)

Test	Ref. Range	Your Lab	CKD Range	Significance of Abnormal
Uric Acid	2.1-8.5 mg/dL o 2.0-6.6 mg/dL C SI Units: (mmol/L) 0.15-0.48 o 0.09-0.36 C		WNL	High: gout, early CKD, thiazide diuretics, starvation Low: with high salicylate doses, hepatic failure
WBC Count	5000-10,000 mm ³ SI Units: 5-10 x 10 ⁹ /L		WNL	High: leukemic neoplasia, acute infection or inflammation, fever, anemia, tissue necrosis, trauma, stress Low: radiation, chemotherapy, bone marrow failure, dietary deficiencies, overwhelming infection, autoimmune diseases
Zinc	85-120 μg/dL		WNL	High: contaminated sample, hemolysis Low: low intake or absorption/ increased loss or needs, alcoholism, cirrhosis of the liver

References: Pagana KD, Pagana TJ. Mosby's Manual of Diagnostic and Laboratory Tests. 2nd ed. St. Louis, MO: Mosby, Inc.; 2002.

Treseler, KM. Clinical Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests: Significance and Nursing Implications. 3rd ed. Norwalk, CT: Appleton & Lange; 1995.

Ravel R. Clinical Laboratory Medicine. Chicago: Yearbook Medical Publishers; 1984.

POTENTIAL SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF ABNORMAL SERUM POTASSIUM

System	Hypokalemia	Hyperkalemia			
Laboratory	<3.5 mEq/L	>6.0 mEq/L (>5.0 in non-CKD)			
Clinical finding	Frequently none until serum potassium levels are very high or low				
Skeletal/muscle	General muscle weakness, leg cramps	Usually no symptoms; could have general muscle weakness, difficult ambulation			
Cardiac effects	Dizziness, hypotension, arrhythmias, tachycardia with cardiac block/arrest at <2.5 mEq/L, ECG changes (elevated U waves, flattened ST segment)	Tachycardia and later bradycardia, cardiac block or arrest at >7 mEq/L, ECG changes (prolonged PR interval, widened QRS, tall T- waves, flattened P-waves)			
GI/smooth muscle	Decreased peristalsis, early nausea/ vomiting, constipation, abdominal distention, anorexia, diarrhea	Decreased peristalsis leading to nausea and diarrhea, abdominal cramps			
Nervous system	Listlessness, lethargy, confusion, speech changes, respiratory paralysis, decreased reflexes	Hyperreflexia progressing to weakness, numbness, tingling, flaccid paralysis			
Acid-base balance	Metabolic alkalosis	Metabolic acidosis			
Genitourinary	Polyuria	Oliguria, anuria			

References: Professional Guide to Diseases. 9th ed. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2008.

http://www.nephrologychannel.com/electrolytes

Tisher C, Wilcox C. Nephrology for the House Officer. Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins; 1993.

Treseler KM. Clinical Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests: Significance and Nursing Implications. 3rd ed.

Norwalk, CT: Appleton & Lange; 1995.