Total Protein (TP)

Source: Cerba Lancet Africa

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TEST OVERVIEW

Test Name	Total Protein
Test Code	TP
Short Description	Total Protein

OVERVIEW

Test Name	Total Protein
Test Code	TP
Category	Biochemistry
TAT	Main Lab: 4 Hour(s) Family Site: <4hrs
Specimen(s)	1 x Venous blood - 5 mL Tube - Gold - SST-Serum Separator Tube

SPECIMEN(S)

SST-Serum Separator Tube

Specimen Type	SST-Serum Separator Tube
Specimen Format	Tube
Specimen Colour	Gold
Specimen Volume	5 mL
Sampling Order	2
Origin	Venous blood
Collection time after baseline	-
Transport Temperature	15-25°C
Accepted Other Specimens	Lithium Heparin Plasma Serum Sodium Heparin Plasma

	EDTA Plasma
TAT	Main Lab: 4 Hour(s) Family Site: <4hrs
Test Stability	Room Temp: 1 Day(s) 2–8°C: 1 Month(s)

CLINICAL INFORMATION

Total Protein

Methodology	Biuret
Specimen Type	SST-Serum Separator Tube
Delay before pre-treatment	8
Transport Temperature	15-25°C
Transport Stability at room temp	1 Day
Transport Stability at 2–8°C	1 -
Haemolysis interference	No

Clinical Interest

Total protein testing is of significant clinical interest across various medical fields.

Assessment of Nutritional Status: Total protein testing, particularly serum total protein, is commonly used to assess a patient's overall nutritional status. Low levels of serum total protein may indicate malnutrition or protein deficiency.

- **Liver Function:** Total protein testing is often included in liver function tests. Abnormal levels of total protein, especially when coupled with other liver function markers like albumin and globulin, can indicate liver disease or dysfunction.
- **Kidney Function**: Total protein testing, along with urine protein testing, is crucial for assessing kidney function. Elevated levels of total protein in urine (proteinuria) can be indicative of kidney damage or disease.
- **Inflammatory Conditions:** Inflammatory diseases or conditions can affect total protein levels. For instance, acute inflammatory responses can lead to increased production of certain proteins, resulting in elevated total protein levels.
- **Monitoring Disease Progression**: Total protein levels are often monitored over time to track the progression of certain diseases, such as liver or kidney disorders.
- **Assessment of Dehydration:** Total protein levels can be affected by dehydration. In cases of severe dehydration, the concentration of proteins in the blood may appear elevated due to reduced plasma volume.
- **Assessment of Plasma Volume:** Total protein levels can also be used to estimate plasma volume. This is particularly relevant in conditions where there may be significant shifts in plasma volume, such as in fluid resuscitation or hemorrhage.

PATIENT INFORMATION

Clinical Information Required	-
Patient Collection Notes	-

COMMENTS & NOTES

LOINC Code	85-2, 2885-2
Outwork	No