

# Components of a Blood Profile



<b>Glucose</b>	A measurement of sugar in the blood. A high level may indicate diabetes or may be seen if done shortly after a meal. Low levels are rarely significant. If your result is over 200mg/dL or less than 50 mg/dL, check with your physician.
<b>BUN/Creatinine</b>	These substances are waste products of metabolism. Since they are secreted by the kidney, a high level may indicate abnormal renal function.
<b>Sodium, Potassium, chloride</b>	Minerals in the blood affecting many body systems. They may be abnormal in diseases of the kidney and/or adrenal glands. They are commonly called electrolytes.
<b>Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)</b>	End product of metabolism excreted by the lungs. It may be altered by pulmonary disease.
<b>Anion Gap</b>	A calculation that is a measure of pH or the acid/base balance of the body.
<b>Calcium</b>	Blood calcium is tested to screen for, diagnose, and monitor a range of conditions related to the bones, heart, nerves, kidneys, and teeth. When an abnormal calcium result is obtained, it is viewed as an indicator or some kind of underlying problem.
<b>Total Bilirubin</b>	A test for jaundice and a measure of liver function.
<b>ALT &amp; AST</b>	These are enzymes which aid various chemical activities within the cells. They are found in muscle, the liver and the heart. Both elevated together may indicate liver disease.
<b>Alkaline Phosphatase</b>	An enzyme that is affected by liver and bone metabolism. It is high during the periods of rapid growth (childhood/adolescence).
<b>Total Protein, Albumin &amp; Globulin A:G Ratio</b>	These tests measure the type and amount of protein the blood and provide an index of health and nutrition.
<b>Cholesterol</b>	Cholesterol is classified as a special kind of lipid. It is an essential component of cell membranes, but if elevated can contribute to an increased risk of heart disease.
<b>HDL</b>	HDL (High Density Lipoprotein) is one of the five major groups of lipoproteins which enable lipids like cholesterol and triglycerides to be transported within the water based blood stream. In healthy individuals, about thirty percent of blood cholesterol is carried by HDL. HDL is considered "good" cholesterol so higher levels indicate a decreased risk of developing heart disease.
<b>LDL</b>	LDL (Low Density Lipoprotein) is another one of the major types of lipoproteins that transport cholesterol and triglycerides from the liver to the peripheral tissues through the water based blood stream. LDL is considered "bad" cholesterol and high levels indicate an increased risk of developing heart disease.
<b>Triglycerides</b>	Triglycerides are one of the major types of fats in the body. Levels increase dramatically following a meal. Results are used in calculating LDL and are valid only if you have been fasting at the time of sample collection.



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<b>TSH</b>	TSH is secreted by the pituitary gland and regulates the synthesis and release of T4 and T3 by the thyroid gland. Elevated TSH values are found in primary hypothyroidism while low values are found in patients with hyperthyroidism and in patients on excessive thyroxine replacement.
<b>PSA</b>	Prostate Specific Antigen or PSA is a substance produced by the prostate. This test is used as a screening tests for prostate cancer.
<b>CBC</b>	<b>WBC:</b> The White Blood Cell count is usually increased with bacterial infection, inflammation, and certain types of leukemias. It may be decreased after stress, burns, trauma, uremia, and certain types of leukemias and some viral infections. <b>RBC/HGB/HCT:</b> The Red Blood count, hemoglobin and hematocrit are increased by stress, shock, polycythemia, heart and pulmonary disease, reduced fluid intake, or excessive fluid loss. They may be decreased by anemia, internal bleeding, folate or B12 deficiency, iron deficiency anemia, acute or chronic blood loss, alcohol, and drugs.
<b>Glycohemoglobin (HBA<sub>1C</sub>)</b>	The glycohemoglobin A <sub>1C</sub> test checks the long-term control of blood glucose levels in people with diabetes.

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**Please note:**

1. Tests and examinations performed are screening tests and examinations only and are in no way a definitive diagnosis.
2. QVMC Staff will have access to my tests results for the sole purpose of determining if the results are normal or abnormal and for aiding me by suggesting a follow-up exam, if indicated.
3. The responsibility for initiating any follow-up examinations or treatment for conditions detected by this screening lies entirely with me as the person responsible for my own health, and not with any of the organizations or individuals involved in the screening.

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Participation in this voluntary screening does not create a professional health care relationship, however, if you choose to contact Quincy Valley Medical Center we will make every attempt to meet your health care needs or refer you to the appropriate medical provider.

**Need more information?**

Go to [www.labtestsonline.org](http://www.labtestsonline.org)