

Obtaining Blood

Usually most simply from the clipped toe-nail (not a finger) into heparinized microhematocrit tubes.

Alternate site – lateral tail vein
(See 'Possum Tales, Vol. 7, #1-2.)

Normals

Blood Volume 5.7% B.W.
(RBC life = 79 days)

OPOSSUM

BLOOD AND URINE NORMALS

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY SUMMARY

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At Rest

Temp. 95-97°F

Pulse 90-160

Respiration 12-24

Analyte		Reference Range		Units	Patient			Notes
COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT	WBC (See Note 1→)	6.0 – 8.0		10 ³ /μl				NOTE 1: Automated WBC should be verified with smear estimate.
	RBC	3.3 – 5.9		10 ⁶ /μl				
	Hb	13.3 – 16.2		g/dl				
	PCV/ HCT	40 – 50		%				
	MCV	64 –80		μl ³				
	MCHC	30 – 40		%				
	MCH	22.5 – 35.9		pg				
	Platelets	>200		10 ³ /μl				
	Plasma Protein	5.0 – 7.5		g/dl				
	Differential (See Note 2→)	%	Absolute					NOTE 2: Perform manual differential only.
	Myelocyte	0	0					
	Metamyelocyte	0	0					
	Band	0	0					
	Neutrophil	30 – 50	1800-4000		10 ³ /μl			
	Lymphocyte	40 – 60	2400-4800		10 ³ /μl			
Monocyte	0 – 2	0-160		10 ³ /μl				
Eosinophil	0 – 2	0-160		10 ³ /μl				
Basophil	0 – 2	0-160		10 ³ /μl				
NRBC/100 WBC	Rare			100 WBC				
Anisocytosis		≤1+						
BIOCHEMISTRY	ALT	<80	AST	<150	U/L			
	BUN	20-40	Creat	0.5-1.2	mg/dl			
	Calcium	8.0-11.0	Phos	4.6-8.2	mg/dl			
	Alk Phos	13-135	CK	<1,000	U/L			
	Na+	143-155	K+	4.1-6.2	mEq/L			
	Cl-	100-108	CO ₂	17-24	mEq/L			
	T.Bilirubin	0.3-0.8	Cholesterol	80-151	mg/dl			
	Uric Acid	0.9-2.2	Glucose	80-100	mg/dl			
	Albumin	2.0-3.0	Globulin	3.0-4.0	g/dl			
	BUN:Cr	10-40	A:G	0.5-1.0	Ratio			
URINE	Specific Gravity	>1.030					Use refractometer for specific gravity. Urine should always be centrifuged and sediment examined microscopically. Cellular elements, bacteria, abnormalities in chemistries or specific gravity are indication for C&S.	
	PH	6.0	Protein	neg				
	Blood	neg	Leukocyte	neg				
	Bili	<1+	Nitrite	neg				