

## Resources to help with interpretation of blood results

This document pools together resources and pathways to help with the interpretation of important blood tests in order to support the safe management of patients.

Resource	Comment
<a href="#">Shared care protocols</a>	Where blood monitoring is required to monitor disease or potential side effects this is included in the relevant shared care protocol. Reference ranges are included along with advice around suggested actions / considerations if the result is out of range.
Blood monitoring guidance	<a href="#">Appendix 5</a> of the Sheffield formulary lists key medicines that require blood monitoring. The table also covers suggested actions /considerations if the results are out of range. Also see <a href="#">SPS blood monitoring guidance</a> , however note there are entries within this that require local interpretation/ agreement.
<a href="#">Prescribing guidelines</a>	There are a number of prescribing guidelines agreed locally, and where blood monitoring is needed reference ranges and suggested actions are included within the guidelines e.g. <a href="#">DOACs in AF</a> , vitamin D ( <a href="#">adults</a> and <a href="#">children</a> ), <a href="#">gender dysphoria</a> , <a href="#">diabetes</a> and <a href="#">Heart Failure</a> .
<a href="#">PressPortal pathways</a>	There are a number of pathways on the PressPortal to support the diagnosis and management of patients with biochemical/blood disorders, for example; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Endocrinology</a> e.g. <a href="#">low testosterone</a>, <a href="#">hyperparathyroidism</a>, <a href="#">thyroid function test</a>)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Haematology</a> pathways e.g. <a href="#">anaemia</a>, <a href="#">neutropenia</a>, <a href="#">thrombocytopenia</a> (and many more)</li> <li>• Clinical Chemistry pathways e.g. <a href="#">vitamin B12</a>, <a href="#">hypomagnesaemia</a>, <a href="#">hyperkalaemia</a>, <a href="#">hypokalaemia</a>, <a href="#">lipid modification</a>, <a href="#">folate deficiency</a>, <a href="#">isolated raised ALT in asymptomatic adults</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">Clinical Knowledge Summaries</a>	Provides primary care practitioners with a readily accessible summary of the current evidence base and practical guidance on best practice. There are over 370 topics organised alphabetically. The summaries include advice around blood ranges and suggested actions where relevant.

For more reading - CPPE have a learning programme that covers basic awareness of important blood tests and how to interpret them in order to support the diagnosis and management of patients.

- [Section 1](#) covers - full blood count, inflammatory markers and coagulation
- [Section 2](#) covers - chronic disease markers, urea and electrolytes and liver function tests
- [Section 3](#) covers - thyroid function tests, bone function tests and therapeutic drug monitoring

**If in doubt – check it out.**

**Discuss with clinician with expertise/MDT.**

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