
Microalbumin/protein - measured

Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at <http://meteor.aihw.gov.au>

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000831 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: A person's measured total microalbumin in a spot test, 24 hour or timed collection.
Context: Public health, health care and clinical settings.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: QUANTITATIVE VALUE
Representation layout: NNNN.N
Minimum Size: 3
Maximum Size: 6
Data Domain: 9999.9 Not stated / inadequately described
NOVAL Measured in different units dependant upon laboratory methodology
Guide For Use: Record the result expressed as the absolute amount of albumin [mg / L] or as albumin excretion rate [AER: ug / min or mg / 24hr] or albumin / creatinine ratio.
Collection Methods: Measurement of microalbumin levels should be carried out by laboratories, or practices, which have been accredited to perform these tests by the National Association of Testing Authority.

Microalbumin is not detected by reagent strips for urinary proteins, and requires immunoassay.

As urinary albumin varies with posture and exercise it is important to collect the urine under very standard conditions; short-term (2 hours) during rest, overnight (approximately 8 hours) or an early morning sample. For screening purposes an early morning urine

specimen is adequate.

Test for albuminuria by measuring microalbumin in timed or first morning urine sample.

The results considered elevated are

-spot urine 30 to 300mg / L; or

-timed urine (24 hr collection) 20 to 200 ug / min.

Related metadata: relates to the data element Microalbumin - units version 1

relates to the data element Microalbumin - upper limit of normal range version 1

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: National Diabetes Outcomes Quality Review Initiative (NDOQRIN) data dictionary

Source Organisation: National Diabetes Data Working Group

Comments: A small amount of protein (albumin) in the urine (microalbuminuria) is an early sign of kidney damage. Microalbuminuria is a strong predictor of macrovascular disease and diabetic nephropathy. Incipient diabetic nephropathy can be detected by urine testing for microalbumin. Incipient diabetic nephropathy is suspected when microalbuminuria is detected in two of three samples collected over a six-month period in patients in whom other causes of an increased urinary album excretion have been excluded.

According to the Principles of Care and Guidelines for the Clinical Management of Diabetes Mellitus a test for microalbuminuria is to be performed:

-at diagnosis and then every 12 months for patients with Type 2 diabetes

-5 years post diagnosis and then every 12 months for patients with Type 1 diabetes.

-if microalbuminuria is present, perform up to two additional measurements in the next 6 weeks.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM Service provision event

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

DSS - Diabetes (clinical) From 01-Jan-03 to
