



Accession # 00340293
 Female Sample Report
 123 A Street
 Sometown, CA 90266



Organic Acid Tests (OATs)

Last Menstrual Period:

Ordering Physician:
 Precision Analytical

DOB: 1976-01-01
Age: 43
Gender: Female

Collection Times:
 2019-01-04 06:00AM

Category	Test		Result	Units	Normal Range
Nutritional Organic Acids					
Vitamin B12 Marker (may be deficient if high) - (Urine)					
	Methylmalonate (MMA)	Within range	1.2	ug/mg	0 - 2.2
Vitamin B6 Markers (may be deficient if high) - (Urine)					
	Xanthurenate	Above range	6.8	ug/mg	0 - 1.4
	Kynurenate	Above range	35.5	ug/mg	0 - 7.3
Glutathione Marker (may be deficient if low or high) - (Urine)					
	Pyroglutamate	Below range	23.2	ug/mg	32 - 60
Neurotransmitter Metabolites					
Dopamine Metabolite - (Urine)					
	Homovanillate (HVA)	Low end of range	5.6	ug/mg	4 - 13
Norepinephrine/Epinephrine Metabolite - (Urine)					
	Vanilmandelate (VMA)	Within range	4.8	ug/mg	2.4 - 6.4
Melatonin (*measured as 6-OH-Melatonin-Sulfate) - (Urine)					
	Melatonin* (Waking)	Low end of range	18.2	ng/mg	10 - 85
Oxidative Stress / DNA Damage, measured as 8-Hydroxy-2-deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) - (Urine)					
	8-OHdG (Waking)	High end of range	4.3	ng/mg	0 - 5.2

Provider Notes

Nutritional Organic Acids

The following three organic acids are functional markers for vitamin deficiency. These compounds essentially back up in human biochemistry when a key nutrient is missing. These three metabolites have fairly straightforward interpretations. When the markers are elevated, it is likely that the patient's cellular levels of the related nutrient may be insufficient.

Methylmalonate (MMA)

Methylmalonate (also known as methylmalonic acid or MMA) is a functional marker of vitamin B12 (also known as cobalamin) deficiency. When cellular levels of B12 are low either from deficiency or due to a B12 transporter gene mutation, levels of MMA increase. This marker is considered superior to measuring serum B12 levels directly. A 2012 publication by Miller showed that 20% of those tested had a genetic defect in the protein that transports B12 to cells. These patients may have a functional B12 deficiency even if serum levels of B12 are normal.

If levels of MMA are elevated, it may be advisable to increase B12 consumption. Common foods high in B12 include beef liver, sardines, lamb, wild caught salmon, grass-fed beef, nutritional yeast and eggs. Vitamin B12 levels can also be increased through supplementation of B12 (taken as cobalamin, methylcobalamin, hydroxycobalamin, or adenosylcobalamin). Symptoms of a vitamin B12 deficiency include: fatigue, brain fog, memory problems, muscle weakness, unsteady gait, numbness, tingling, depression, migraines/headaches and low blood pressure.

Xanthurenate

Xanthurenate (also known as xanthurenic acid) and Kynurenate (kynurenic acid) are functional markers of vitamin B6 (also known as pyridoxine) deficiency. Vitamin B6 is a critical co-factor to over 100 important reactions that occur in the human body and is stored in the highest concentrations in muscle tissue. Tryptophan is readily converted to NAD by the liver. One of the steps in this pathway requires B6. When there is insufficient B6, xanthurenate is made instead. Kynurenate may also become elevated when patients are B6 deficient because of a different, possibly less B6 dependent pathway. The pathways leading to these biomarkers have other influences, so they will not always agree. When Xanthurenate is elevated, Kynurenate is also elevated about 1/3 of the time. When both are elevated, a B6 deficiency is likely more certain and more severe. Not only is xanthurenate an indicator of a lack of B6, it is also harmful to the human body. It complexes with insulin and decreases insulin sensitivity. In fact, rats fed xanthurenate will actually develop diabetes because of the effects on insulin. If xanthurenate levels are elevated, B6 supplementation may be considered. Food high in B6 include turkey breast, grass-fed beef, pinto beans, avocado, pistachios, chicken, sesame and sunflower seeds.

While there is always some tryptophan going down the kynurenine pathway towards NAD (and possibly xanthurenate), this process is up-regulated by inflammation, estrogen and cortisol. If levels of estrogen or cortisol are high, it may exacerbate xanthurenate elevations and increase the need for B6.

Xanthurenate can also bind to iron and create a complex that increases DNA oxidative damage resulting in higher 8-OHdG levels. If both markers are elevated, there is likely an antioxidant insufficiency.

Xanthurenate and Kynurenate are both elevated in this case, so a vitamin B6 deficiency is likely and may be somewhat significant (since both markers are elevated). It is advisable to consider increasing vitamin B6 intake and to be aware of those things listed above that may induce a vitamin B6 deficiency.

Pyroglutamate

Pyroglutamate (also known as pyroglutamic acid) is a functional marker of glutathione deficiency. Pyroglutamate is a step in the production/recycling of glutathione. If the body cannot convert pyroglutamate forward, it will show up elevated in the urine. High pyroglutamate is an established marker for glutathione deficiency.

Glutathione is one of the most potent anti-oxidants in the human body. It is especially important in getting rid of toxins, including the reactive quinone species formed by 4-OH-E1 and 4-OH-E2. This reactive species can damage DNA if not detoxified by either methylation or glutathione.

Some have reported that low pyroglutamate may also be indicative of a need for glutathione; however, this is not established in the scientific literature.

Neurotransmitter Metabolites

The neurotransmitters dopamine, norepinephrine and serotonin are important for human health. Measuring neurotransmitters directly (direct testing of serotonin, for example) is difficult because of their instability and their urinary measurements are controversial with respect to how well they reflect the body's levels of these neuro-hormones. Each of these three neurotransmitters can be assessed indirectly by measuring their urine metabolites. While these metabolites are not a perfect reflection of what's going on in the brain, the scientific literature does affirm their use for a good representation of overall levels of these neurotransmitters.

Homovanillate (HVA)

Homovanillate (also known as HVA) is the primary metabolite of dopamine, a brain and adrenal neurotransmitter that comes from tyrosine (with BH4 and iron as co-factors) and goes on to create norepinephrine (noradrenaline) and epinephrine (adrenaline).

Low levels of HVA can be due to low levels of dopamine or poor conversion of dopamine to HVA. The latter may be due to insufficient levels of SAM, Magnesium, FAD and NAD which are needed to metabolize dopamine. Low circulating dopamine may be due to insufficient BH4, iron or tyrosine. It may also be seen when adrenal function is generally low. Low dopamine levels may be associated with addictions, cravings and pleasure seeking (to boost levels) in addition to sleepiness, impulsivity, tremors, less motivation, fatigue and low mood.

Elevated HVA may be caused by generally increased adrenal hormone output or because of a copper or vitamin C deficiency (which are needed for dopamine conversion to norepinephrine). Elevations may also be caused by a number of medications or supplements including: MAO inhibitors, quercetin, tyrosine, DL-phenylalanine (DLPA), L-dopa, macuna, dopamine medication (Levodopa, Sinemet, Methyldopa), SNRI medication (Wellbutrin), tricyclic antidepressants, amphetamines, appetite suppressants, and caffeine. Bananas also contain dopamine. Elevated dopamine may be associated with loss of memory, insomnia, agitation, hyperactivity, mania, hyper-focus, high stress and anxiety as well as addictions, cravings and pleasure seeking (to maintain high levels).

Vanilmandelate (VMA)

Vanilmandelate (also known as VMA) is the primary metabolite of norepinephrine and epinephrine (adrenaline). The adrenal gland makes cortisol and DHEA as well as norepinephrine and epinephrine. When adrenal hormone output is generally low, VMA levels may be low. If HVA levels are significantly higher than VMA, there may be a conversion problem from dopamine to norepinephrine. This case can be caused by a copper or vitamin C deficiency. The enzymes COMT (methylation) and MAO are needed to make VMA from norepinephrine. If these enzymes are not working properly, VMA may be low when circulating norepinephrine and/or epinephrine are not low. Low levels of norepinephrine and epinephrine may be associated with addictions, cravings, fatigue, low blood pressure, low muscle tone, intolerance to exercise, depression, loss of alertness. When the body is under physical or psychological stress, VMA levels may increase. Because dopamine gets converted to norepinephrine and ultimately to VMA, the list of medications and supplements that increase HVA may also increase VMA. Elevated levels may be associated with feeling stressed, aggression, violence, impatience, anxiety, panic, worry, insomnia, paranoia, increased tingling/burning, loss of memory, pain sensitivity, high blood pressure and heart palpitations. If VMA and HVA are both extremely high, it may be necessary to rule out a neuroblastic tumor.

Melatonin (measured as 6-OHMS)

Melatonin is not technically an adrenal or sex hormone however it is highly involved in the entire endocrine system. It is made in small amounts in the pineal gland in response to darkness and stimulated by Melanocyte Stimulating Hormone (MSH). A low MSH is associated with insomnia, an increased perception of pain, and mold exposure. Pineal melatonin (melatonin is also made in significant quantities in the gut) is associated with the circadian rhythm of all hormones (including female hormone release). It is also made in small amounts in the bone marrow, lymphocytes, epithelial cells and mast cells. Studies have shown that a urine sample collected upon waking has levels of 6-Hydroxymelatonin-sulfate (6-OHMS) that correlate well to the total levels of melatonin in blood samples taken continuously throughout the night. The DUTCH test uses the waking sample only to test levels of melatonin production. Low melatonin levels may be associated with insomnia, poor immune response, constipation, weight gain or increased appetite. Elevated melatonin is usually caused by ingestion of melatonin through melatonin supplementation or eating melatonin-containing foods. Elevated melatonin production that is problematic is rare, but levels can be higher in patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and may be phase shifted (peaking later) in some forms of depression.

8-OHdG (8-Hydroxy-2-deoxyguanosine)

8-OHdG (8-hydroxy-2-deoxyguanosine) results can be seen on page 6 of the DUTCH Complete (or DUTCH Plus) report. It is a marker for estimating DNA damage due to oxidative stress (ROS creation). 8-OHdG is considered pro-mutagenic as it is a biomarker for various cancer and degenerative disease initiation and promotion. It can be increased by chronic inflammation, increased cell turnover, chronic stress, hypertension, hyperglycemia/pre-diabetes/diabetes, kidney disease, IBD, chronic skin conditions (psoriasis/eczema), depression, atherosclerosis, chronic liver disease, Parkinson's (increasing levels with worsening stages), Diabetic neuropathy, COPD, bladder cancer, or insomnia. Studies have shown higher levels in patients with breast and prostate cancers. When levels are elevated it may be prudent to eliminate or reduce any causes and increase the consumption of antioxidant containing foods and/or supplements. The reference range for 8-OHdG is a more aggressive range for Functional Medicine that puts the range limit at the 80th percentile for each gender. A classic range (average plus two standard deviations) would result in a range of 0-6ng/mg for women and 0-10ng/mg for men. Seeking out the cause of oxidative stress may be more crucial if results exceed these limits.