

# Creatinine

Results of the creatinine blood test are measured in milligrams per deciliter or micromoles per liter. The normal range for creatinine in the blood may be 0.84 to 1.21 milligrams per deciliter (74.3 to 107 micromoles per liter), although this can vary from lab to lab, between men and women, and by age

Serum [creatinine](#) (a blood measurement) is an important indicator of renal health because it is an easily measured byproduct of muscle metabolism that is excreted unchanged by the kidneys. Creatinine itself is produced via a biological system involving [creatine](#), phosphocreatine (also known as creatine phosphate), and [adenosine triphosphate](#) (ATP, the body's immediate energy supply).

If contrast-enhanced [computed tomography](#) (CT) or [arteriography](#) is planned, it is appropriate to obtain a baseline [creatinine](#) concentration.

Patients with low estimated glomerular filtration rate (GFR) and elevated creatinine levels were associated with higher perioperative [morbidity](#) <sup>1)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Purvis TE, Kessler RA, Boone C, Elder BD, Goodwin CR, Sciubba DM. The effect of renal dysfunction on short-term outcomes after lumbar fusion. Clin Neurol Neurosurg. 2016 Dec 6;153:8-13. doi: 10.1016/j.clineuro.2016.12.002. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 27992823.

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