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| **Urine Albumin/Creatinine Ratio** | | | |
| **Synonyms** | |  |  |
| **Clinical Indication** | |  | This test is recommended in diabetes mellitus (types I and II) and Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) stage 3A and above to identify early stage renal disease so progression can be slowed by appropriate therapy. It should be measured on diagnosis and, if normal, repeated annually.  At this time, point of care testing for small traces of albumin is considered unreliable and all positive results must be confirmed by laboratory testing. It is recommended that point of care tests are not used. |
| **Part of Profile / See Also** | |  | Urine albumin, urine creatinine and urine albumin:creatinine ratio. |
| **Request Form** | |  | Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE request |
| **Availability / Frequency of Analysis** | |  | On request |
| **Turnaround Time** | |  | 2 days |
| **Patient Preparation** | |  | Patients should avoid strenuous exercise or sexual activity for 2 days prior to collecting the urine. Samples should not be collected when there are symptoms of UTI or thrush. |
| **Sample Requirements** | |  |  |
| **Specimen Type** |  | Early Morning Urine. |
| **Volume** |  | 2 ml |
| **Container** |  | White Capped Universal |
| **Reference Range & Units** | |  | Normal range is < 3 mg/mmol in both males and females.  Reference: NICE CKD guidelines CG182 |
| **Interferences** | |  |  |
| **Interpretation & Clinical**  **Decision Value (if applicable)** | |  | Results are reported as an albumin:creatinine ratio to correct for urine concentration. Cut-off limits are different depending on whether patient has diabetes and/or CKD. An abnormal result in a patient with diabetes is an albumin:creatinine ratio of greater than 2.5 (males) or 3.5 (females). If abnormal, please follow local albuminuria testing protocol. For patients with CKD an abnormal ratio is greater than 10.0. |
| **References** | |  | NICE CKD guidelines CG182 |
| **Test code** | |  | ACR |
| **Lab Handling** | |  | Processing: Aliquot, then centrifuge. Primary sample and aliquot stored at 4°C. |

