

INTRODUCTION

The following table lists common Blood/Urine tests, giving a brief explanation of the purpose of each test.

SUMMARY OF BLOOD/URINE TEST TYPES

TYPE OF TEST	TESTING FOR WHAT?
FBC	A test looking at blood cells, often used to exclude anaemia
FERRITIN/B12/FOLATE	A test looking at the level of iron and vitamins in your blood
ESR	A test that looks for inflammation in the body
CRP	A test that looks for inflammation in the body
U&Es	Testing for kidney function and salts in the body
LFT	Tests the liver function and inflammation
TFT	Tests the activity of the thyroid gland
RBS	The blood sugar level
CHOLESTEROL/LIPIDS	Measures different fats in the blood
LH/FSH	Measures hormone levels
MSU	A test looking for infection in the bladder and kidneys
URATE	A test for gout
IM/GLANDULAR FEVER	Specific tests for glandular fever
HbA1C	Looks at how the body has controlled its sugar levels over the past few weeks
AUTO-ANTIBODIES/RHEUMATOID FACTOR	Tests for proteins that result in damage to specific tissues in the body
SWABS	Tests that detect whether an infection is present and, if detected, which antibiotic is appropriate