Globulin

Description	Calculated by subtraction of measured albumin from measured total protein as part of the LFT profile
Indication	Used as general indicator of health and reflects changes in albumin and total protein levels.
Additional Info	Globulin encompasses a heterogeneous group of proteins with typically high molecular weights. Globulin and albumin comprise the majority of serum proteins. Some globulins are produced in the liver, others by the immune system. Globulins are roughly divided into three groups, alpha, beta and gamma globulins. Gamma globulins include immunoglobulins, IgM, IgG and IgA.
Concurrent Tests	Total protein and albumin (requested as part of LFT profile) IGs and serum electrophoresis if suspect myeloma
Dietary Requirements	N/A
Interpretation	Globulin concentration will also reflect changes to albumin levels. Increased globulin proteins may indicate: • Acute infection • Chronic inflammatory disease e.g. rheumatoid arthritis, SLE • Multiple myeloma • Waldenstrom's macroglobulinaemia • Low albumin causes such as cirrhosis and nephrotic syndrome • Hyperimmunisation Low total protein levels (resulting in low globulin) suggest a hepatic or renal disorder or issues of malabsorption or malnutrition. Low globulin levels are of uncertain significance in the absence of hepatic or renal disease. Underproduction can be seen in some leukaemias.
Collection Conditions	N/A
Frequency of testing	As required