

Uric acid (urine)	
Description	Uric acid is the final breakdown product of purine metabolism in humans.
Indication	Gout and urinary tract stones.
Additional Info	Approximately 75% of the uric acid excreted by humans is excreted in the urine. Most of the remainder is secreted into the GI tract where it is degraded to allantoin and other compounds by bacterial enzymes.
Concurrent Tests	Urine pH if investigating urinary uric acid stone formation is essential. Urine creatinine measurement is also recommended.
Dietary Requirements	Dietary assessment will be required if elevated.
Interpretation	<p>Urinary uric acid levels vary depending upon dietary intake.</p> <p>Quantification of urinary uric acid excretion can aid in the selection of appropriate treatment for individuals with asymptomatic hyperuricaemia. A uric acid excretion of <600mg (<3.6 mmol) per day may be treated with uricosuric drugs, such as probenecid or sulphipyrazone. A uric acid excretion of >600mg (>3.6 mmol) per day suggests treatment with allopurinol (xanthine oxidase inhibitor).</p> <p>About 1 in 5 individuals with clinical gout also have urinary tract uric acid stones. Uric acid stone formation is increased in hyperuricaemia and in acidic pH (<6.0).</p>
Collection Conditions	24h urine collection.
Frequency of testing	As required.