

HOMOVANILLIC  
ACID,  
URINE

## Orderable – See Comments

Turnaround Time: 5 days STAT: 2 days

### Alternate Name(s):

HVA

### Specimen:

24-hour urine or random urine.

**Random urine testing available for pediatric patients only.**

### Collection Information:

[24-Hour Urine Diet and Medication Restrictions: 5-HIAA, Catecholamines, Metanephrines, VMA/HVA, Serotonin](#)

#### Collection of 24-Hour Urine Sample

For 24-hour urine:

Collect urine over a 24-hour period in a container with 30 mL of 6 N HCl for adult samples or 15 mL of 6 N HCl for pediatric samples.

For random urine:

Obtain a container with 0.5 mL of 6 N HCl from the core laboratory prior to urine collection. Minimum volume of urine required is 1 mL.

### Reference Ranges:

| Random Urine<br>( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{mmol}$<br>creatinine) | 24-hour Urine<br>( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{day}$ ) |
|--|---|
| 0 - 2 years: $\leq 20.2$                                     | 0 - 2 years: $\leq 15.4$                        |
| 2 - 4 years: $\leq 13.6$                                     | 2 - 4 years: $\leq 25.8$                        |
| 5 - 9 years: $\leq 9.4$                                      | 5 - 9 years: $\leq 29.6$                        |
| 10 - 19 years: $\leq 7.9$                                    | 10 - 19 years: $\leq 39.5$                      |
| > 19 years: $\leq 4.7$                                       | > 19 years: $\leq 45.6$                         |

### Special Processing:

For 24-hour urine collections, transfer an aliquot of the measured urine to a 5-mL Greiner tube.



**Laboratory:**  
Toxicology/Special  
Chemistry Lab



**Requisition:**  
GENERAL LABORATORY  
REQUISITION



**Method of Analysis:**  
LC-MS/MS



**Test Schedule:**  
Monday – Friday  
0800-1600



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**Comments:**

VHHU24 (for 24-hour urine; includes VMA and HVA) or HVAR (for random urine; includes VMA and HVA)

Orders for VMA and HVA are coupled so that the levels of both analytes are measured and reported for each sample.

**For STAT requests, please call the toxicology lab at ext. 64664 to make arrangements.**

**Storage and Shipment:**

Store and ship urine aliquot refrigerated.