

CYSTATIN C, SERUM (Nephelometry)	mg/L	(0.53-0.95)
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Note: 1. Glucocorticoids reduce production of Cystatin C which may result in overestimation of renal function in renal transplant patients who are regularly given glucocorticoids.

2. Thyroid dysfunction may affect Cystatin C concentration

Comments

Cystatin C, an amino acid protein is an inhibitor of cysteine proteinase. It is produced by all nucleated cells and the production is relatively constant from the age of 4 months to 70 years and is proportionate to glomerular filtration rate (GFR). The rate of production is not affected by muscle mass, sex, race & diet. It is freely filtered by the glomerulus at the same concentration as plasma and is reabsorbed by the proximal tubules. Hence appearance of Cystatin C signifies proximal tubular damage. Serum Cystatin C is a better indicator of renal function than creatinine in the early stages of GFR impairment.

Clinical Use

To diagnose renal impairment in early stages