

**HOMOVANILLIC ACID (HVA),  
24 HOUR URINE**

(HPLC)

HVA

mg/24 hrs

<b>ANALYTE</b>	<b>AGE</b>	<b>REFERENCE RANGE IN mg/24 hrs</b>
Urine HVA	0 -2 weeks	0-1.5
	>2-8 weeks	0-2.0
	>2-7 months	0-2.9
	>7-12 months	0-3.4
	>1-6 years	0-4.8
	>6-11 years	0-6.9
	>11-15 years	0-8.8
	>15 years	1.82-6.92

**Comment**

Homovanillic acid (HVA) and other catecholamine metabolites like VMA & Dopamine are elevated in patients with catecholamine secreting tumors like Pheochromocytoma, Neuroblastoma & other Neural crest tumors. Certain enzyme deficiencies also alter HVA levels : Monoamine oxidase- A deficiency decreases urinary HVA levels while Dopamine beta hydrolase deficiency increases urinary HVA levels.

**Uses**

- HVA along with VMA is a useful screening test for catecholamine secreting tumors
- Monitoring Neuroblastoma treatment
- Evaluating patients with possible Inborn errors of catecholamine metabolism