

## PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES OF AUSTIN, P.A.

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### CBC Results

A complete blood cell (CBC) is performed for many reasons. When done during a well-check, the purpose is to review general health and screen for health concerns such as iron deficiency anemia. When a CBC is performed during a sick check, this test is used to determine the next steps for your child's care.

When reviewing CBC results, you will see a reference range for each number. These are set by the child's age. Your child's provider will review every CBC value. Very often, one or more values will fall out of the reference range; this can be completely normal and is not worrisome.

For well-check CBC's, we will only call if a lab value is concerning to your provider. **If you do not receive a call from us to discuss results, this means your provider has no concerns about your child's lab values and those values marked as higher or lower than the range are not concerning to your child's health. No news is good news!** For sick-check CBC's, we will be in contact with you to discuss results and determine next steps.

### CBC Components

1. **White Blood Cell Count (WBC):** Measures the number and types of white blood cells. These cells demonstrate the body's immune response and can indicate infections or inflammation.
  - a. Neutrophils: make up the greatest % of WBCs and fight inflammation and disease
  - b. Lymphocytes: includes B-cells and T-cells which fight bacteria and other pathogens
  - c. Monocytes: work with neutrophils to fight illness, infections and remove damaged cells
  - d. Eosinophils: activated in response to allergies and other types of infections
  - e. Basophils: help identify infections, repair wounds, and work during allergic reactions
2. **Red Blood Cell Count (RBC):** Measures the number of red blood cells and helps evaluate the body's ability to transport oxygen to tissues.
3. **Hemoglobin (Hgb):** Measures the amount of oxygen-carrying protein in the blood. Low hemoglobin levels may indicate anemia.
4. **Hematocrit (Hct):** Measures the percentage of red blood cells in the total blood volume. It can help diagnose conditions like anemia and dehydration.
5. **Mean Corpuscular Volume (MCV):** Measures the average size of red blood cells and can help diagnose different types of anemia.
6. **Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin (MCH):** Measures the average amount of hemoglobin in red blood cells and helps diagnose different types of anemia.
7. **Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin Concentration (MCHC):** Measures the concentration of hemoglobin in red blood cells and can help diagnose different types of anemia.
8. **Red Cell Distribution Width (RDW):** Measures the variation in size and shape of red blood cells.
9. **Platelet Count (Plt):** Measure platelet number. Platelets play a crucial role in blood clotting.