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Question

Write a **short** note on Urinalysis

Answer

A urinalysis is a group of tests that detect and semi-quantitatively measure various compounds that are eliminated in the urine, including the byproducts of normal and abnormal metabolism as well as cells, and cellular fragments.

A urinalysis is a test of your urine. A urinalysis is used to detect and manage a wide range of disorders, such as urinary tract infections, kidney disease and diabetes.

A urinalysis involves checking the appearance, concentration and content of urine. Abnormal urinalysis results may point to a disease or illness.

For example, a urinary tract infection can make urine look cloudy instead of clear. Increased levels of protein in urine can be a sign of kidney disease. Unusual urinalysis results often require more testing to uncover the source of the problem.

Types of Urinalysis

- 1.) Complete Urinalysis: performed in the lab. Looks at urine composition.
- **2.) Rapid Urinalysis:** Performed at doctors office using test strips. Checks for common renal abnormalities
- **3.) 24-hour urine collection:** performed at home over 24 hours. Gives clearer picture of renal function.

A urinalysis is a common test that's done for several reasons which include the following:

- To check your overall health. Your doctor may recommend a urinalysis as part of a routine medical exam, pregnancy checkup, pre-surgery preparation, or on hospital admission to screen for a variety of disorders, such as diabetes, kidney disease and liver disease.
- To diagnose a medical condition. Your doctor may suggest a urinalysis if you're experiencing abdominal pain, back pain, frequent or painful urination, blood in your urine, or other urinary problems. A urinalysis may help diagnose the cause of these symptoms.
- To monitor a medical condition. If you've been diagnosed with a medical condition, such as kidney disease or a urinary tract disease, your doctor may recommend a urinalysis on a regular basis to monitor your condition and treatment.
- Screening for drug abuse
- Diagnosis of some metabolic and endocrine disturbances in the body such as DM.

Note: many disorders can be diagnosed in their early stages by detecting abnormalities in the urine.