

Haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis 2026

Chronic dialysis pathology basket of care

Discovery Health has based the pathology basket of care and utilisation on the South African Renal Society (SARS) and South African Renal Consortium (SARC) recommendations

The pathology basket will be calendar driven to ensure the basket is not depleted before the end of the year. This applies to members of schemes administered by Discovery Health.

Test	Per annum	January	February or first month of diagnosis	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Haemoglobin	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
White cell count only	3		X				X				X		
Platelets	3		X				X				X		
Ret-Hb	2		X						X				
Iron	2		X						X				
Ferritin	2		X						X				
Transferrin saturation (calculation)	2		X						X				
Sodium	3		X				X				X		
Potassium	6		X		X		X		X		X		X
Bicarbonate (CO2 or HC03)	6		X		X		X		X		X		X
Urea post-dialysis	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Urea post-dialysis	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Creatinine	3		X				X				X		
Parathyroid hormone (PTH)	3		X				X				X		
Vitamin D level	3		X				X				X		
Alkaline phosphatase	3		X				X				X		
Calcium	6		X		X		X		X		X		X
Albumin	6		X		X		X		X		X		X
Phosphate	6		X		X		X		X		X		X
Glucose random	2		X						X				
HbA1c (diabetic patients only)	2		X						X				
Lipogram fasting	1		X										
Hepatitis B: S-antibody	2		X						X				
Hepatitis B: E-Antigen*	1		X										
Hepatitis B: S-Antibody (if >10, repeat once a year)	2		X						X				
Hepatitis B: C-Antibody*	1		X										
Hepatitis C: Antibody (IgG)	2		X						X				
ALT	1		X										
AST	1		X										
Gamma GT	1		X										
HIV: ELISA (with informed consent)	2		X						X				

* Only for patients with Hepatitis B S-Antibodies ≤10 level

For new patients on chronic dialysis, please complete an 'Application for out-of-hospital management of a Prescribed Minimum Benefit condition' form relevant to the patient's medical scheme in order to access this pathology basket of care. If additional pathology is required, please complete a 'Request for additional cover for out-of-hospital Prescribed Minimum Benefit conditions' form relevant to the patient's medical scheme. Up to date forms are always available on www.discovery.co.za under Medical Aid > Find documents and certificates.