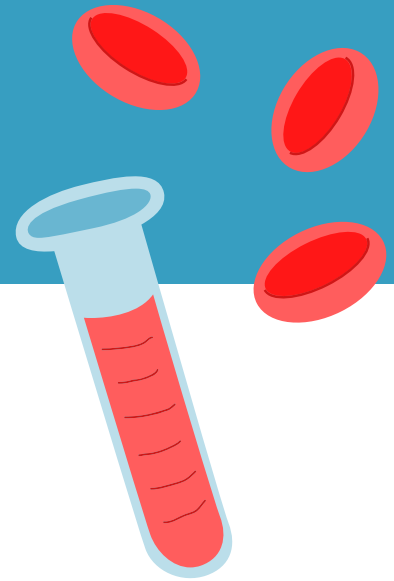


# Complete Blood Count

A complete blood count (CBC) is a blood test used to evaluate overall health. Primarily, a CBC measures the levels of red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets in the blood.



## The parts of a CBC include:

**Red blood cell count:** The red blood cell count shows the size and number of red blood cells in the blood. Red blood cells carry oxygen and remove waste from the body. A high red blood cell count is called erythrocytosis.

**Typical range: 3.90-5.72 trillion cells/liter\***

**Hemoglobin and Hematocrit:** Hemoglobin (also known as Hbg or Hb) is a protein that carries oxygen to the cells. Hematocrit (HCT) measures the percentage of red blood cells in the blood. If you have low levels of both hemoglobin and hematocrit, you have anemia. Advanced liver disease can lead to anemia (which can cause fatigue and weakness).

**Hemoglobin Typical range: 12.0-17.5 grams/deciliter\***

**Hematocrit Typical range: 34.9%-50%\***

**White blood cell count:** The white blood cell count shows the numbers and types of white blood cells in the blood. Infection, inflammation, and certain medications can all lead to an increase in white blood cells.

**Typical range: 3.5-10.5 billion cells/liter**

**Platelet count:** Platelets help the blood to clot. A low platelet count is called thrombocytopenia, while a high platelet count is called thrombocytosis. Advanced liver disease, and certain medications, can cause a low platelet count.

**Typical range: 150-450 billion/liter**

## Questions to Ask Your Doctor

1. Are any of my test results abnormal?

2. What does it mean if my results are different than the typical range?

3. What do these results mean for my liver health?

4. What should I do next?

*\*Results may vary between men and women.*

*Resources: Mayo Clinic, HepatitisC.net, MedlinePlus*

*This guide is provided for reference purposes only. To understand your lab results, consult your healthcare provider.*