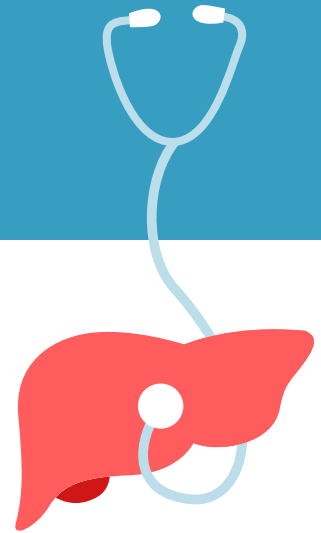


Liver Function Tests

Liver function tests are blood tests used to measure the enzymes and proteins produced by the liver. These tests can tell your doctor how well your liver is functioning, and if the liver has been damaged.



Some common liver tests include:

Alanine transaminase (ALT): ALT is a liver enzyme that helps your body to metabolize protein. When the liver is damaged, ALT levels increase.

Typical range: 7 to 55 units per liter

Aspartate transaminase (AST): AST is an enzyme that helps your body to metabolize alanine (an amino acid). When the liver is damaged or diseased, AST levels increase.

Typical range: 8 to 48 units per liter

Alkaline phosphatase (ALP): ALP is an enzyme found in the liver, bile ducts, and bones. When the liver is damaged or disease, ALT levels increase.

Typical range: 45 to 115 units per liter

Bilirubin: Bilirubin is naturally created by the body during the breakdown of red blood cells. When the liver is damaged or diseased, bilirubin levels increase. Elevated bilirubin can lead to the yellowing of the skin and eyes, known as jaundice.

Typical range: 0.1 to 1.2 milligrams per deciliter

Gamma-glutamyltransferase (GGT): GGT is an enzyme found in the blood. When the liver, or bile ducts, are damaged, GGT levels increase.

Typical range: 9 to 48 units per liter

Prothrombin time (PT): PT is the time it takes for blood to clot. Liver damage, and certain medications such as blood thinners, can cause PT to increase.

Typical range: 9.5 to 13.8 seconds

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?

Resources: Mayo Clinic, HepatitisC.net, MedlinePlus

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