Microalbumin - units

Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at http://meteor.aihw.gov.au

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary:	NHDD		
Knowledgebase ID:	000832	Version number:	1
Metadata type:	DATA ELEMENT		
Registration Authority:	NHIMG	Admin status:	SUPERSEDED
		Effective date:	01-MAR-05

Definition: The units used for measuring microalbumin dependent upon laboratory methodology.

Context: Public health, health care and clinical settings:
A small amount of protein (albumin) in the urine (Microalbuminuria) is an early sign of kidney damage. Microalbuminuria is a strong predictor of macrovascular disease and diabetic nephropathy. Incipient diabetic nephropathy can be detected by urine testing for microalbumin.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	CODE
Representation layout:	N
Minimum Size:	1
Maximum Size:	1

Data Domain:

1	mg / L (milligrams per litre)
2	ug / min (micrograms per minute)
3	mg / 24hr (milligrams per 24-hour)
4	albumin / creatinine ratio
9	Not stated / inadequately described

Guide For Use: Record the units used for the microalbumin normal reference range.

Collection Methods: Microalbumin is not detected by reagent strips for urinary proteins, and requires immunoassay.

Measurement of microalbumin levels should be carried out by laboratories, or practices, which have been accredited to perform

these tests by the National Association of Testing Authority.

Report the methodology used by the laboratory.

As urinary albumin varies with posture and exercise it is important to collect the urine under very standard conditions; short-term (2 hours) during rest, overnight (approximately 8 hours) or early morning sample. For screening purposes an early morning urine specimen is adequate and if the albumin / creatinine ratio is found to be greater than 3.5 mg / mmol then a timed overnight sample should be obtained for estimation of the albumin excretion rate.

Related metadata: relates to the data element Microalbumin / protein - measured version 1
relates to the data element Microalbumin - upper limit of normal range version 1

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: National Diabetes Outcomes Quality Review Initiative (NDOQRIN) data dictionary.

Source Organisation: National Diabetes Data Working Group

Comments: Diagnosis of microalbuminuria is established if 2 of the 3 measurements are abnormal.

Incipient diabetic nephropathy is suspected when microalbuminuria is detected in two of three samples collected over a six-month period in patients in whom other causes of an increased urinary albumin excretion have been excluded.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM Surveillance / monitoring event

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

DSS - Diabetes (clinical) From 01-Jan-03 to