

Beta-Hydroxybutyrate – Measuring Unit Change

Orderable: Beta-Hydroxybutyrate [LAB2336]

Effective April 7th, 2026, Community Memorial Hospital will transition the reporting units for beta-hydroxybutyrate laboratory results from mg/dL to mmol/L. This change is being implemented to align with American Diabetes Association guidelines^{1,2} for clinical decision thresholds for evaluation of diabetic ketoacidosis using mmol/L.

Summary of Change:

- Current measuring unit: mg/dL
- **New measuring unit: mmol/L**

Reference Interval for Beta-hydroxybutyrate, Old Measuring Unit (mg/dL)	Reference Interval for Beta-hydroxybutyrate, New Measuring Unit (mmol/L)
0.2-2.8 mg/dL	0.2-0.27 mmol/L

References:

1. Umpierrez GE, Davis GM, ElSayed NA, et al. Hyperglycemic crises in adults with diabetes: a consensus report. *Diabetes Care*. 2024;47(8):1257-1275.
2. Rodriguez Alvarez P, San Martin VT, Morey-Vargas OL. Hyperglycemic crises in adults: A look at the 2024 consensus report. *Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine*. 2025;92(3):152-158.

For questions, please contact Pathology Client Services at (804) 828-7284.