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**“B” TESTS**

Test Name	Synonyms	Panels	Clinical Significance
B12, Vitamin	Cobalamin		B12 is necessary for DNA synthesis. Deficiency causes inhibited nuclear maturation and division and may be due to diet (rare) or poor absorption from the GI tract.
Baermann Fecal Technique			This test is used to retrieve nematode larvae from feces.
Bicarbonate	Total CO <sub>2</sub> , TCO <sub>2</sub> , Carbon Dioxide Content, CO <sub>2</sub> Content, Bicarb, HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Vet CMP, Vet Electrolyte Panel, Vet Renal Panel	Total CO <sub>2</sub> increases in metabolic alkalosis and decreases in metabolic acidosis.
Bilirubin, Direct		Vet Liver Panel	Bilirubin increases due to fasting (benign effect in horses and squirrel monkeys, and may lead to hepatic lipidosis in cats), hemolytic disease (usually mild increase), liver dysfunction and biliary obstruction (intra- or extrahepatic). Hepatic and post-hepatic disorders are characterized by an increase in Direct Bilirubin.
Bilirubin, Total		Vet CMP, Vet Liver Panel	Bilirubin increases due to fasting (benign effect in horses and squirrel monkeys, and may lead to hepatic lipidosis in cats), hemolytic disease (usually mild increase), liver dysfunction and biliary obstruction (intra- or extrahepatic).
Blood Culture			This test is used to identify bacteria that may be causing sepsis and the antibiotics that may be used to treat the infection.
Blood Urea Nitrogen	BUN, Urea Nitrogen	Vet BMP, Vet CMP, Vet Renal Panel	Urea may be increased due to excess dietary protein, poor quality dietary protein, carbohydrate deficiency, catabolic states, dehydration, congestive heart failure, renal failure, blocked urethra, and ruptured bladder. It may be decreased due to low dietary protein, gross sepsis, anabolic hormonal effects, liver failure, portosystemic shunts (congenital or acquired), and inborn errors of urea cycle metabolism.