**Laboratory Values**

Review the results of laboratory tests to detect abnormalities. Possible causes of abnormal values for some of the more common blood tests are listed below.

**Bilirubin**

*Increased:* liver disease, pernicious anemia

*Decreased:* chronic renal disease

**Calcium**

*Increased:* Addison's disease, hyperparathyroidism, malignant bone tumors

*Decreased:* chronic renal disease, hypoparathyroidism, vitamin D deficiency

**Cholesterol**

*Increased:* chronic renal disease, diabetes mellitus, pancreatic dysfunction

*Decreased:* fasting state, hemolytic anemia, hyperthyroidism, liver disease, malnutrition

**Creatinine**

*Increased:* dehydration, nephrosis, other renal disorders

**Fibrinogen**

*Increased:* infection

*Decreased:* malnutrition, liver disease

**Glucose**

*Increased:* diabetes mellitus, emotional stress, exercise, uremia, hyperthyroidism, infection, steroid therapy, thiazide diuretic therapy, cerebral lesions

*Decreased:* hyperinsulinism, hypothyroidism, starvation, extensive hepatic damage

**Potassium**

*Increased:* anuria, oliguria, bronchial asthma, tissue breakdown, trauma, renal disease

*Decreased:* diabetic acidosis, diarrhea, diuretic therapy, steroid therapy, vomiting, cirrhosis

##### Sodium

*Increased:* insufficient fluid intake, excessive fluid loss, cardiac disease, renal disease

*Decreased:* congestive heart failure, dehydration, diabetic acidosis, diarrhea, diuretic therapy, overhydration, starvation

**Urea Nitrogen (BUN)**

*Increased:* dehydration, GI hemorrhage, high protein intake, intestinal obstruction, renal disease, mercury poison

*Decreased:* low protein intake, starvation, cirrhosis, liver disease

**Uric Acid**

*Increased:* chronic renal failure, fasting, high salicylate, leukemia, gout, pneumonia, thiazide diuretic therapy, multiple myeloma

*Decreased:* allopurinol therapy, defective tubular reabsorption