

Understanding Your Blood Tests

The drugs used to treat your kidney cancer can have effects on your blood tests. Blood test results are things you may not “feel” and cannot report to your doctor.

It is very important to keep scheduled appointments and discuss the results of your blood tests with your doctor or nurse. Some of the changes in your blood counts may require a change in your treatment.

Other medications may need to be prescribed to treat these changes in your lab tests.

It's important not to ‘down-play’ side effects you may be experiencing in order to avoid changes in your treatment.

Some of the common lab abnormalities associated with target therapies are::

- Elevated blood sugar
- Elevated triglycerides
- Elevated cholesterol
- Thyroid abnormalities
- Elevated liver enzymes
- Elevated creatinine

Excess urine protein

- Decreased white blood cells
- Decreased platelets
- Decreased red blood cells

Talking to your doctor and nurse about how you feel is very important.

Something you may think is not important may give clues to your doctor or nurse about a change in your lab tests.