

Methylmalonic acid

General:

Methylmalonic acid (MMA) is a dicarboxylic acid that is a C-methylated derivative of malonate. Increased methylmalonic acid levels may indicate a vitamin B12 deficiency. However, it is sensitive without being specific. MMA is elevated in 90-98% of patients with B12 deficiency. This test may be too sensitive, as 25-20% of patients over the age of 70 have elevated levels of MMA, but 25-33% of them do not have B12 deficiency. For this reason, MMA is not routinely recommended in the elderly.

The following tests are available:

- **Methylmalonic acid in Blood**

Indication: Suspicion of vitamin B12 deficiency

Material: 1 ml serum

TAT: 7-10 days*

Method: LCMS

Units: µg/l

Ref.- range: up to 47.0

- **Methylmalonic acid in Urine**

Indication: Suspicion of vitamin B12 deficiency

Material: 10 ml urine

TAT: 7-10 days*

Method: LCMS

Ref.- range: see report

For complete list of laboratory test offered at Freiburg Medical Laboratory, please visit <http://www.fml-dubai.com/parameter-listings/>