



**Lecture 2/Second Year**

**Serum Urea**

**Subject Lecturer**

**Dr. Tuqa H. Abdallah**



## **Urea**

### **CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Urea is the end product of the protein metabolism. It is synthesized in the liver from the ammonia produced by the catabolism of amino acids. It is transported by the blood to the kidneys from where it is excreted. Increased levels are found in renal diseases, urinary obstructions, shock, congestive heart failure and burns. Decreased levels are found in liver failure and pregnancy

### **PRINCIPLE**

Urease catalyses the conversion of urea to ammonia. In a modified Berthelot reaction, the ammonium ions react with a mixture of salicylate, hypochlorite and nitroprusside to yield a blue-green dye (Indophenol.) The intensity of this dye is proportional to the concentration of urea in the sample.

### **REAGENT COMPOSITION**

#### **UREA REAGENT 1**

Phosphate buffer 120 mmol/L

Sodium Salicylate 60 mmol/L

sodium nitroprusside 5 mmol/L EDTA 1 mmol/L

Urease 5 KU/L

#### **UREA REAGENT 2**

Phosphate buffer 120 mmol/L Sodium Hydroxide 400 mmol/L Sodium

Hypochlorite 10 mmol/L

**UREA STANDARD** :Urea standard concentration 80 mg/dL or 13.3mmol

**PROCEDURE**

Pipette into cuvettes	Blank	Standard	Sample
Reagent-1	1000 µL	1000 µL	1000 µL
Sample	--	--	10 µL
Standard	--	10 µL	--
Mix and incubate for 5 minutes at 20-25°C or 3 minutes at 37°C			
Reagent-2	1000 µL	1000 µL	1000 µL
Mix and incubate for 10 minutes at 20-25°C or 5 minutes at 37°C Measure the absorbance of the sample (As) and the standard (Astd) against the reagent blank			

**CALCULATION**

$$\text{Urea Conc. (mg/dL)} = \frac{\Delta A \text{ sample}}{\Delta A \text{ standard}} \times 80 \text{ (Std.conc.)}$$

Urea (g/24 urine) = mg/dL X volume of 24-hour urine

To convert mg/dL to mmol/L divide by 6.01

