

Complete Blood Count, Manual Evaluation of Blood Smear and Differential Count



As in human medicine, when a pet isn't feeling well your Banfield doctor may need to perform certain tests which will provide information regarding what is happening within your pet's body. There are several common tests that provide basic information about different body systems. These tests can be used to identify illness, and sometimes the cause of illness as well, which in turn helps determine the most appropriate treatment for your pet.

The Importance of Negative/ Normal Results

All tests provide important information about your pet. Many of our wellness plans include diagnostic tests as part of your pet's comprehensive exams. This allows your Banfield doctor to have a baseline for what values are "normal" in your pet so that changes in your pet's health are caught early. When your pet is ill several tests may need to be run to rule out certain diseases. A negative test provides your Banfield doctor with an updated "map" of your pet's body systems and is a very useful tool for determining what disease your pet may have.

Complete Blood Cell Count (CBC)

The CBC measures different cells that circulate in the blood such as white blood cells, red blood cells and platelets. These measurements help diagnose illnesses such as anemia (low number of red blood cells), and infection (high number of white blood cells). They also help to detect abnormal blood cells, blood parasites, microorganisms, and some cancers.

Manual Examination of Blood Smear and Differential Count

By smearing a drop of blood onto a glass slide and examining it under a microscope, your Banfield doctor is able to gain a more in-depth view of the blood cells in your pet. Blood cells can be manually counted just as the CBC machine test does. The differential compliments the CBC machine analysis because the size and health of the blood cells are visually evaluated by your doctor through a microscope.



For additional information, please contact your Banfield medical team.

