



Clinical Pathology of the Foal is unique !

Complete blood count, serum biochemistry, coagulation, endocrine and body fluids can potentially vary significantly between day 1, day 3 as well as between 1 and 2 months depending on the parameter. Urine is no exception. **The first voided urine is typically over 1.030** and therefore hypersthenuric. In **normal nursing foals** with normal renal function **the urine specific gravity should fall over the next 48hrs and remain hyposthenuric (<1.008)**. Once less milk is consumed and a greater medullary concentration gradient is achieved, the USG will be higher. Microglobulins are excreted in association with colostrum intake therefore up to 2+ proteinuria is possible for the initial 2-3 days. Small numbers of WBCs and RBCs may be seen in the urine in the first few days of life due rupture of the umbilical cord before the urachus completely closes.