

The 5-minute guide to SDMA.

SDMA basics—who, what, when, where, and why.

You already know how important kidneys are to the overall health of a patient, but you may not be familiar with how much more SDMA can tell you—far beyond just screening for chronic kidney disease.



Who are some key patients for SDMA in-house testing?

While all patients can benefit from testing SDMA, these are some common clinical presentations where SDMA can help identify renal issues.

Nearly half of dogs and cats of all ages were azotemic within one year following a mild increase in SDMA.^{16*}



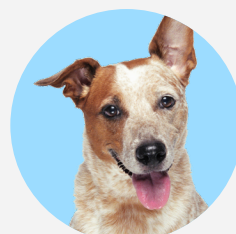
Sick/emergency patients

SDMA is important for all sick and emergency patients, not just those with primary kidney issues.^{27*} Various conditions, like systemic inflammation, dehydration, and blood loss, can affect renal function.



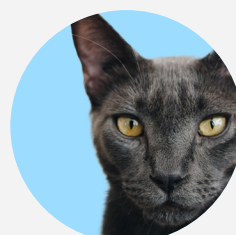
Geriatric/at-risk patients

SDMA can identify kidney disease early in geriatric animals or breeds that have higher risk of kidney disease.^{1-3*} Early diagnosis provides an opportunity to slow progression through long-term management strategies.^{28*}



Preanesthetic patients

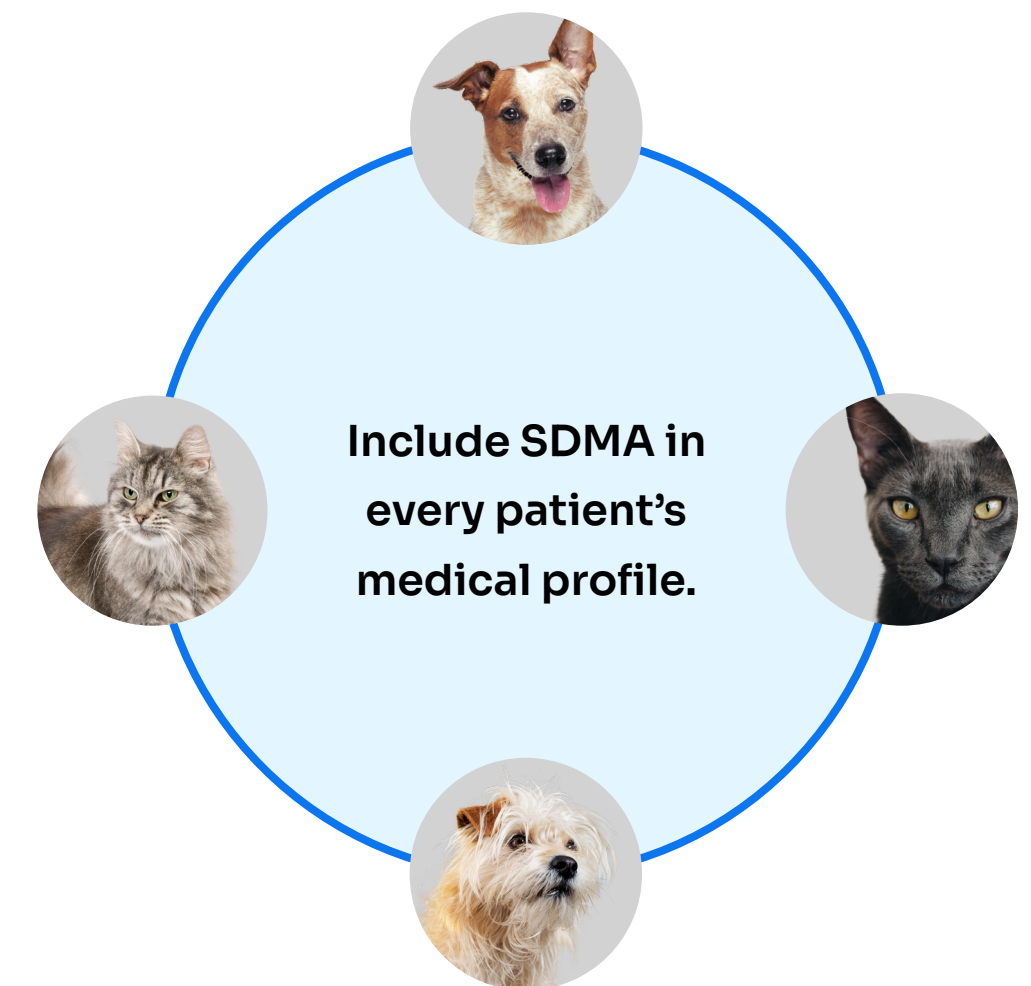
SDMA can improve recognition of kidney disease in patients undergoing anesthetic procedures, which allows for educated decisions regarding anesthesia choices.



Follow-up patients

Real-time results, including SDMA, can signal changes in renal function of patients previously diagnosed with kidney disease. As kidney disease progresses, additional diagnostics, such as blood pressure and urine protein-creatinine ratio, may be indicated.

When should I include SDMA?



SDMA can give you the information you need to identify—and act upon—changes in health early. Increases in SDMA and creatinine indicate changes in glomerular filtration rate (GFR) and warrant follow-up testing.^{1,3,4,6,7,12,14,24,25*}

Study data^{16*} suggests:



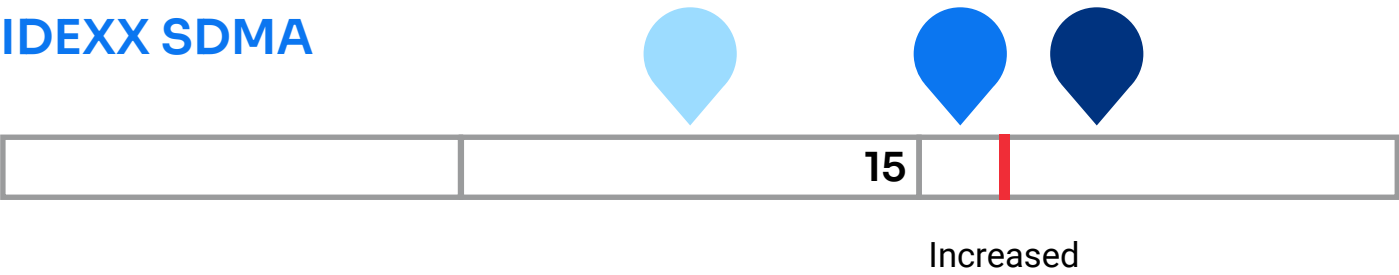
Follow-up testing within 1 month.



Delaying testing may risk further disease progression.

*Visit idexx.com/SDMAclaims for further information on IDEXX SDMA testing claims and supporting scientific evidence.

What should I do with an increased SDMA result?



Below 15 $\mu\text{g/dL}$

SDMA is normal.

15–19 $\mu\text{g/dL}$

Take action when SDMA results are mildly increased (15–19 $\mu\text{g/dL}$) and perform a complete urinalysis to evaluate for evidence of a low urine specific gravity, an active sediment, or proteinuria.

$\geq 20 \mu\text{g/dL}$

When SDMA result is $\geq 20 \mu\text{g/dL}$, perform a complete urinalysis. Kidney disease is probable. Act immediately by following the protocol at [idexx.com/sdma](https://www.idexx.com/sdma).

Why am I seeing this result?

SDMA can be an early indicator of a decreased GFR associated with either primary kidney disease or secondary changes to kidney function caused by other disease processes (e.g., GI, infectious, endocrine). SDMA increases when there is on average 40%, and as little as 25%, loss of kidney function versus creatinine, which does not increase until up to 75% of kidney function is lost. SDMA can detect mild to moderate functional loss that creatinine misses.^{1,3,4*}

There are a few different SDMA results that may require a bit more explanation:

Mild increases

An SDMA result at or near the upper reference interval may be indicative of early changes in GFR. An increased SDMA occurs as a result of a loss or damage to nephrons—the functional units of the kidney. When this initially occurs, remaining nephrons compensate or hyperperform in an effort to maintain kidney function in the face of diminished capacity.

Creatinine increased, SDMA normal

It is rare to see a creatinine concentration that is increased when SDMA is within its reference interval. Patient factors, such as recent protein intake, muscle mass impact on creatinine, or sample factors, may play a role. We recommend that you prepare and analyze samples immediately after collection for best results.

Where can I learn more about SDMA?

Our online resource center has everything you need to know to make SDMA part of your everyday workflow. From running the Catalyst® SDMA Test, to interpreting results and ordering, find it all at [idexx.com/sdma](https://www.idexx.com/sdma).



*Visit [idexx.com/SDMAclaims](https://www.idexx.com/SDMAclaims) for further information on IDEXX SDMA testing claims and supporting scientific evidence.

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