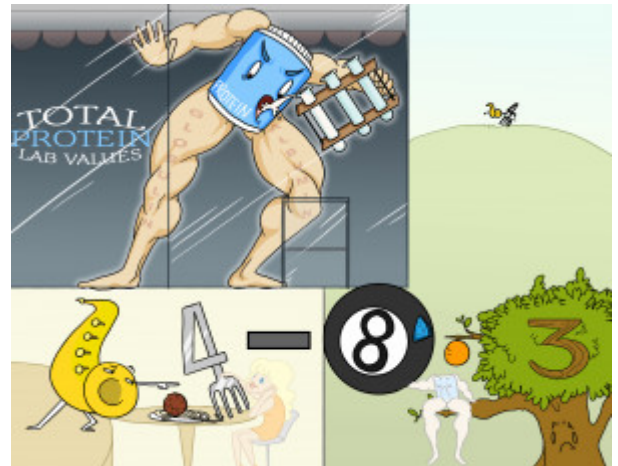


## Total Protein Lab Values

The total protein test requires a blood sample and determines the amount of serum globulin and albumin. Globulins help regulate the immune system while albumin uses oncotic pressure to keep fluid inside blood vessels (refer to the Picmonic on Albumin Lab Value). Since certain drugs affect results, instruct the patient to inform the doctor about current medications.



PLAY PICMONIC

### 6.4 - 8.3 g/dL

(6) Sax (4) Fork to (8) Ball (3) Tree

A total protein level between 6.4-8.3 g/dL is considered within normal limits. Elevated total protein levels are associated with burns, hyperproliferative plasma cell disorders and dehydration. Liver disease and malabsorption cause lower total protein levels. Pregnancy may also elevate total protein levels.