

Table 1**Comparison of methods used to measure proteinuria**

	Urine dipstick	ACR (mg/mmol)	PCR (mg/mmol)	24 hr collection
Normal	Nil	< 3	< 5	< 0.15 g
Microalbuminuria	Nil or trace	3-30	5-50	< 0.5 g
Proteinuria	+ or ++	70	100	1 g
	0.3 g/L to 1 g/L			
	++ or +++	70-200	100-350	1-3.5 g
Nephrotic range proteinuria	1 g/L to 3 g/L			
	+++ or ++++	> 300	> 350	> 3.5 g
Comments	3 g/L to 20 g/L			
	Qualitative: Easy to use, can detect blood, glucose, nitrites. Cannot detect microalbuminuria	Quantitative: Measures albumin excretion. Total proteinuria underestimated if proteins other than albumin present	Quantitative: Measures all urinary proteins. Divide PCR by 100 to derive proteinuria in grams	Gold standard: However, it is cumbersome and relies on appropriate collection techniques