Body Fluid Reference Ranges

SEROUS FLUIDS:

Pleural, peritoneal, ascites, pericardial, peritoneal lavage and dialysate

Source	Erythrocyte Count (cells/µl)	Leukocyte Count (cells/µl)	Differential*	
Pleural	<10,000	<1000	*	
Pericardial	<10,000	<1000	*	
Peritoneal	<10,000	< 500	Neutrophils <25%	
Peritoneal lavage	<100,000	<200	*	
Peritoneal dialysate	NA	< 50	*	
Appearances	Clear, Colorless to pale yellow, does not clot			
* Reference ranges for differential count have not been established				

SYNOVIAL FLUIDS:

Parameter	Normal Reference
Total Volume	<4.0ml
Appearance	Clear, colorless to pale yellow
Viscosity	High; does not clot
Erythrocyte count	0
Leukocyte count	0-150 cells/μl
Neutrophils	Approx.10%
Lymphocytes	Approx.30%
Monocytes and macrophages	Approx.60%

CSF:

Parameter	0-1 Year	>1 Year
Erythrocyte count	0-20 cells/ μ1	0-20 cells/µl
Leukocyte count	0-22 cells/μ1	0-7 cells/µl
Neutrophils	0-8%	0-6%
Lymphocytes	5-35%	40-80%
Monocytes	50-90%	15-45%
Appearance	Clear and colorless with viscosity similar to water	

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