This document was created by a medical student enrolled in the Rural Physicians Associate Program (RPAP) at the University of Minnesota Medical School as part of the course project. The aim of the project is to present information on a medical topic in the format of a patient education handout. It does not necessarily reflect the views of the University of Minnesota Medical School physicians and faculty. These materials are provided for informational purposes only and are in no way intended to take the place of the advice and recommendations of your personal health care provider. The information provided may no longer be up-to-date since it has not been reviewed since the date of creation. The information provided should not be used to diagnose a health problem or disease, or as a means of determining treatment. In the event of a medical emergency, immediately contact a doctor or call 911.
When?
During pregnancy your urine will be collected for screening.
- first prenatal visit
- other prenatal visits depending on your clinic
- if you have symptoms of an urinary tract infection
  o burning with urination
  o urinating more often
  o unable to hold your urine

For More information:
Ask your Doctor
Mayo Clinic
http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/urinalysis/MY00488
American Pregnancy Organization
http://www.americanpregnancy.org/prenataltesting/urinetest.html

Created by
Sarah Ristvedt
RPAP Student
U of MN

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Urinalysis is a test to evaluate urine. It includes the appearance, color and odor of urine. The sample may be looked at under a microscope to detect blood cells or bacteria.

Urine tests can detect bladder or kidney infections, dehydration, diabetes and preeclampsia.

Bacteria, sugar, ketones or proteins may be detected with urinalysis.

Urine is provided with the appropriate temperature and nutrients that allow bacteria to grow.

If your urine contains bacteria it may be a sign of a kidney or bladder infection.

Urine culture can identify the bacteria and help your physician chose an antibiotic to treat the infection.

Image credit (http://www.microbiologylabs.info/introduction-to-microbiology/culturing-microorganisms)