



{ ped·uh·goh·jee
the art or science of teaching; instructional methods.

TPN MONITORING SCHEDULE

Laboratory testing is an objective means of assessing organ function, electrolyte levels and to ensure the patient is receiving the appropriate calorie, carbohydrate and lipid combinations to meet nutritional needs without causing liver or other organ damage. When receiving parenteral nutrition, the mineral content of the solution largely determines these values. Abnormalities can be recognized and changes made to the TPN formula to correct any abnormalities before they become life threatening. When a patient is initially placed on TPN, lab and vital signs are usually performed much more frequently. Once the patient is stable blood tests can be performed less often. A suggested monitoring schedule is shown below.

PARAMETER	INITIAL PERIOD	STABLE PERIOD	LONG TERM
Vital Signs	3 - 4 Times/Day	Daily	As Needed
Blood Glucose	Every 6 Hours	Daily	Monthly
Weight	Daily	2 Times/Week	Weekly
Intake and Output	Daily	Daily	
Basic Metabolic Panel	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
Calcium, Phosphorus, Magnesium	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
CBC with differential	Weekly	Weekly	Monthly
Triglycerides	Weekly	Weekly	Monthly
PT/PTT	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly
Transthyretin	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly
Trace Element Levels	N/A	N/A	Quarterly