

Package ‘nephro’

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Description Set of functions to estimate kidney function and other phenotypes of interest in nephrology based on different biomechimal traits.

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nephro-package

Biostatistics utilities for nephrology

Description

This package contains a set of tools for the estimation of kidney function. Kidney function is assessed by means of the Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR), which can be estimated using different biomarkers. The most commonly used ones are serum or plasma creatinine and cystatin C.

Included in the package are the following GFR estimating functions: the Modification of Diet in Renal Disease (MDRD) study equations based on four ([MDRD4](#)) or six ([MDRD6](#)) parameters (Levey 1999; Levey 2006); the CKD-Epi equations for serum creatinine with the race coefficient ([CKDEpi.creat](#)) and without the race coefficient ([CKDEpi_RF.creat](#)); the CKD-Epi equation for cystatin C ([CKDEpi.cys](#)); the CKD-Epi equation for the combination of creatinine and cystatin C with ([CKDEpi.creat.cys](#)) and without ([CKDEpi_RF.creat.cys](#)) the race coefficient (Inker 2012; Inker 2021); the three equations proposed by Stevens 2008 based on cystatin C only ([Stevens.cys1](#)), age- and sex-weighted cystatin C ([Stevens.cys2](#)), and a combination of cystatin C and creatinine ([Stevens.creat.cys](#)); the classic Cockcroft and Gault 1976 equation for creatinine clearance estimation ([CG](#)); the equation by Virga (2007) ([Virga](#)); the race-free equations developed by the European Kidney Function Consortium (EKFC) including sex and age based on serum creatinine ([EKFC.creat](#)) (Pottel 2021) and based on serum cystatin C with ([EKFC.cys](#)) and without ([EKFC_SF.cys](#)) the sex coefficient (Pottel 2023); the full age spectrum (FAS) equations using serum creatinine ([FAS.creat](#)) (Pottel 2016), cystatin C ([FAS.cys](#)), and their combination ([FAS.creat.cys](#)) (Pottel 2017); the Schwartz bedside formula ([Schwartz.Bedside](#)) (Schwartz 2009).

A comparative description of several functions included in the initial version of the package can be found in Pattaro (2013). Extensive literature does exist that compares the methods described.

Details

```
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```

Author(s)

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References

Citing this package:

- Pattaro C, Riegler P, Stifter G, Modenese M, Minelli C, Pramstaller PP. Estimating the glomerular filtration rate in the general population using different equations: effects on classification and association. *Nephron Clin Pract* 2013; **123**(1-2):102-11.

Formulas:

- Cockcroft DW, Gault MH. Prediction of creatinine clearance from serum creatinine. *Nephron* 1976; **16**: 31-41.

- Inker LA, *et al.* Estimating glomerular filtration rate from serum creatinine and cystatin C. *N Engl J Med* 2012; **367**: 20-9.

- Inker LA, *et al.* New Creatinine- and Cystatin C-based Equations to Estimate GFR without Race. *N Engl J Med* 2021; **385**: 1737-1749.

- Levey AS, *et al.* A more accurate method to estimate glomerular filtration rate from serum creatinine: a new prediction equation. Modification of Diet in Renal Disease Study Group. *Ann Intern Med.* 1999; **130**(6): 461-70.

- Levey AS, *et al.* Using standardized serum creatinine values in the modification of diet in renal disease study equation for estimating glomerular filtration rate. *Ann Intern Med.* 2006; **145**: 247-54.

- Stevens LA, *et al.* Estimating GFR using serum cystatin C alone and in combination with serum creatinine: a pooled analysis of 3,418 individuals with CKD. *Am J Kidney Dis* 2008; **51**: 395-406.

- Virga G, *et al.* A new equation for estimating renal function using age, body weight and serum creatinine. *Nephron Clin Pract* 2007; **105**: c43-53.

- Pottel H, *et al.* Development and Validation of a Modified Full Age Spectrum Creatinine-Based Equation to Estimate Glomerular Filtration Rate: A Cross-sectional Analysis of Pooled Data. *Ann Intern Med* 2021; **174**: 183-191.

- Pottel H, *et al.* Cystatin C-Based Equation to Estimate GFR without the Inclusion of Race and Sex. *N Engl J Med* 2023; **388**: 333-343.

- Pottel H, *et al.* An estimated glomerular filtration rate equation for the full age spectrum. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2016; **31**:798-806.

- Pottel H, *et al.* Estimating glomerular filtration rate for the full age spectrum from serum creatinine and cystatin C *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2017; **32**: 497-507.

- Schwartz GJ, *et al.* New equations to estimate GFR in children with CKD. *J Am Soc Nephrol* 2009; **20**:629-637.

On IDMS calibration:

- Levey AS, *et al.* Expressing the Modification of Diet in Renal Disease Study equation for estimating glomerular filtration rate with standardized serum creatinine values. *Clin Chem* 2007; **53**:766-72.

- Matsushita K, *et al.* Comparison of risk prediction using the CKD-EPI equation and the MDRD study equation for estimated glomerular filtration rate. *J Am Med Assoc* 2012; **307**:1941-51.

- Skali H, *et al.* Prognostic assessment of estimated glomerular filtration rate by the new Chronic

Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration equation in comparison with the Modification of Diet in Renal Disease Study equation. *Am Heart J* 2011; **162**:548-54.

Examples

```
# Comparison between different equations

creat <- c(0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)
cyst <- c(1.1, 0.95, 1.1, 1.0, 1.3, 1.2)
sex <- c(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0)
age <- c(60, 65, 43, 82, 71, 55)
ethn <- round(runif(6))
wt <- c(70, 80, 60, 55, 87, 71)

eGFR <- data.frame(creat, cyst)
eGFR$MDRD4 <- MDRD4(creat, sex, age, ethn, 'IDMS')
eGFR$CKDEpi.creat <- CKDEpi.creat(creat, sex, age, ethn)
eGFR$CKDEpi_RF.creat <- CKDEpi_RF.creat(creat, sex, age)
eGFR$CKDEpi.cys <- CKDEpi.cys(cyst, sex, age)
eGFR$CKDEpi.creat.cys <- CKDEpi.creat.cys(creat, cyst, sex, age, ethn)
eGFR$CKDEpi_RF.creat.cys <- CKDEpi_RF.creat.cys(creat, cyst, sex, age)
eGFR$Stevens.cys1 <- Stevens.cys1(cyst)
eGFR$Stevens.cys2 <- Stevens.cys2(cyst, sex, age, ethn)
eGFR$Stevens.creat.cys <- Stevens.creat.cys(creat, cyst, sex, age, ethn)
eGFR$cg <- CG(creat, sex, age, wt)
eGFR$virga <- Virga(creat, sex, age, wt)

pairs(eGFR[,3:13])

# For use with non-IDMS calibrated creatinine
# several authors (see references) suggested
# a 5% creatinine adjustment

creat <- c(0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)
sex <- c(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0)
age <- c(60, 65, 43, 82, 71, 55)
ethn <- round(runif(6))
gfr <- CKDEpi.creat(0.95*creat, sex, age, ethn)
```

CG

Cockroft and Gault equation

Description

Creatinine clearance is estimated with the Cockroft and Gault formula.

Usage

```
CG(creatinine, sex, age, wt)
```

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years
wt	Numeric vector with weight in kg

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in $\text{ml}/\text{min}/1.73 \text{ m}^2$.

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Cockcroft DW, Gault MH. Prediction of creatinine clearance from serum creatinine. *Nephron* 1976; **16**: 31-41.

See Also

[CKDEpi.creat](#), [MDRD4](#), [Virga](#)

CKDEpi.creat

CKD-EPI equation for serum creatinine

Description

GFR is estimated with the CKD-EPI Study equation based on IDMS serum or plasma creatinine.

Usage

```
CKDEpi.creat(creatinine, sex, age, ethnicity)
```

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years
ethnicity	Numeric vector with 0 for non-Black and 1 for Black individuals

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in $\text{ml}/\text{min}/1.73 \text{ m}^2$.

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Inker LA, *et al.* Estimating glomerular filtration rate from serum creatinine and cystatin C. *N Engl J Med* 2012; **367**: 20-29.

See Also

[CKDEpi.creat.cys](#), [CKDEpi.cys](#), [CKDEpi_RF.creat](#)

 CKDEpi.creat.cys

CKD-EPI equation for creatinine and cystatin C

Description

CKD-EPI equation to estimate GFR based on a combination of creatinine and cystatin C

Usage

CKDEpi.creat.cys(creatinine, cystatin, sex, age, ethnicity)

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
cystatin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/dl
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years
ethnicity	Numeric vector with 0 for non-Black and 1 for Black individuals

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Inker LA, *et al.* Estimating glomerular filtration rate from serum creatinine and cystatin C. *N Engl J Med* 2012; **367**: 20-29.

See Also

[CKDEpi.creat](#), [CKDEpi.cys](#), [CKDEpi_RF.creat.cys](#)

CKDEpi.cys	<i>CKD-EPI equation for cystatin C</i>
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Description

GFR is estimated with the CKD-EPI equation for cystatin C proposed by Inker et al., *N Engl J Med* 2012

Usage

```
CKDEpi.cys(cystatin, sex, age)
```

Arguments

cystatin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/l
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years

Value

The function returns a numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Inker LA, *et al.* Estimating glomerular filtration rate from serum creatinine and cystatin C. *N Engl J Med* 2012; **367**: 20-29.

See Also

[CKDEpi.creat](#), [CKDEpi.creat.cys](#)

CKDEpi_RF.creat	<i>Race-free CKD-EPI equation for serum creatinine</i>
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Description

GFR is estimated with the CKD-EPI Study equation based on serum creatinine without the ethnicity coefficient.

Usage

```
CKDEpi_RF.creat(creatinine, sex, age)
```

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in $\text{ml}/\text{min}/1.73 \text{ m}^2$.

Author(s)

Ryosuke Fujii

References

Inker LA, *et al.* New creatinine- and cystatin C-based equations to estimate GFR without race. *N Engl J Med* 2021; **385**: 1737-1749.

See Also

[CKDEpi.creat](#), [CKDEpi.creat.cys](#), [CKDEpi.cys](#), [CKDEpi_RF.creat.cys](#)

CKDEpi_RF.creat.cys *Race-free CKD-EPI equation for serum creatinine and cystatin C*

Description

CKD-EPI equation to estimate GFR based on a combination of creatinine and cystatin C without the ethnicity coefficient

Usage

```
CKDEpi_RF.creat.cys(creatinine, cystatin, sex, age)
```

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
cystatin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/l
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in $\text{ml}/\text{min}/1.73 \text{ m}^2$.

Author(s)

Ryosuke Fujii

References

Inker LA, *et al.* New creatinine- and cystatin C-based equations to estimate GFR without race. *N Engl J Med* 2021; **385**: 1737-1749.

See Also

[CKDEpi.creat](#), [CKDEpi.creat.cys](#), [CKDEpi.cys](#), [CKDEpi_RF.creat](#)

EKFC.creat

EKFC equation for serum creatinine

Description

EKFC equation for serum creatinine modified from FAS equation

Usage

EKFC.creat(creatinine, sex, age)

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years

Value

The function returns a numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Janina Herold

References

Pottel, H, *et al.* Development and Validation of a Modified Full Age Spectrum Creatinine-Based Equation to Estimate Glomerular Filtration Rate : A Cross-sectional Analysis of Pooled Data. *N Engl J Med* 2021; **174**: 183-191.

See Also

[EKFC.cys](#), [CKDEpi.creat](#)

EKFC.cys *EKFC equation for cystatin C*

Description

EKFC equation for cystatin C that includes the sex coefficient, as proposed by Pottel et al., *N Engl J Med* 2023

Usage

EKFC.cys(cystatin, sex, age)

Arguments

cystatin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/l
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years

Value

The function returns a numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Janina Herold

References

Pottel, H, *et al.* Cystatin C-Based Equation to Estimate GFR without the Inclusion of Race and Sex. *N Engl J Med* 2023; **388**: 333-343.

See Also

[EKFC_SF.cys](#)

EKFC_SF.cys *Sex-free EKFC equation for cystatin C*

Description

EKFC equation for cystatin C without the sex coefficient as proposed by Pottel et al., *N Engl J Med* 2023

Usage

EKFC_SF.cys(cystatin, age)

Arguments

cystatin Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/l
age Numeric vector with age in years

Value

The function returns a numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Janina Herold

References

Pottel, H, *et al.* Cystatin C-Based Equation to Estimate GFR without the Inclusion of Race and Sex. *N Engl J Med* 2023; **388**: 333-343.

See Also

[EKFC.cys](#)

FAS.creat

FAS equation for serum creatinine

Description

Full age spectrum (FAS) equation to estimate GFR based on serum creatinine

Usage

```
FAS.creat(creatinine, sex, age)
```

Arguments

creatinine Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
sex Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age Numeric vector with age in years

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Janina Herold

References

Pottel, H., *et al.* An estimated glomerular filtration rate equation for the full age spectrum. *Nephrol Dial Transplant.* 2016; **5**: 798-806.

See Also

[FAS.creat.cys](#), [FAS.cys](#)

FAS.creat.cys

FAS equation for creatinine and cystatin C

Description

Full age spectrum (FAS) GFR estimation based on serum creatinine and cystatin C

Usage

FAS.creat.cys(creatinine, cystatin, sex, age)

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
cystatin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/l
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years

Value

The function returns a numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Janina Herold

References

Pottel, H., *et al.* An estimated glomerular filtration rate equation for the full age spectrum from serum creatinine and cystatin C. *Nephrol Dial Transplant.* 2017; **32**: 497-507.

See Also

[FAS.cys](#)

FAS.cys	<i>FAS equation for cystatin C</i>
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Description

Full age spectrum (FAS) GFR estimation based on cystatin C

Usage

FAS.cys(cystatin, sex, age)

Arguments

cystatin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin values in mg/l
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Janina Herold

References

Pottel, H., *et al.* An estimated glomerular filtration rate equation for the full age spectrum from serum creatinine and cystatin C. *Nephrol Dial Transplant.* 2017; **32**: 497-507.

See Also

[FAS.creat](#), [FAS.creat.cys](#)

MDRD4	<i>Four-parameter MDRD study equation</i>
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Description

GFR is estimated with the 4-parameter Modification of Diet in Renal Disease (MDRD) study equation.

Usage

MDRD4(creatinine, sex, age, ethnicity, method = "IDMS")

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years
ethnicity	Numeric vector with 0 for non-Black and 1 for Black individuals
method	Defaults is 'IDMS' for IDMS-traceable creatinine; write 'other' if not IDMS

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in $\text{ml}/\text{min}/1.73 \text{ m}^2$.

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Levey AS, *et al.* A more accurate method to estimate glomerular filtration rate from serum creatinine: a new prediction equation. Modification of Diet in Renal Disease Study Group. *Ann Intern Med.* 1999; **130**(6): 461-70.

Levey AS, *et al.* Using standardized serum creatinine values in the modification of diet in renal disease study equation for estimating glomerular filtration rate. *Ann Intern Med.* 2006; **145**: 247-254.

See Also

[CKDEpi.creat](#), [MDRD6](#), [CG](#)

MDRD6

Six-parameter MDRD study equation

Description

GFR is estimated with the 6-parameter Modification of Diet in Renal Disease (MDRD) study equation.

Usage

```
MDRD6(creatinine, sex, age, albumin, BUN, ethnicity, method = 'IDMS')
```

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years
albumin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma albumin in g/dl
BUN	Numeric vector with blood urea nitrogen levels in mg/dl
ethnicity	Numeric vector with 0 for non-Black and 1 for Black individuals
method	Defaults is 'IDMS' for IDMS-traceable creatinine; write 'other' if not IDMS

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Levey AS, *et al.* A more accurate method to estimate glomerular filtration rate from serum creatinine: a new prediction equation. Modification of Diet in Renal Disease Study Group. *Ann Intern Med.* 1999; **130**(6): 461-70.

Levey AS, *et al.* Using standardized serum creatinine values in the modification of diet in renal disease study equation for estimating glomerular filtration rate. *Ann Intern Med.* 2006; **145**: 247-254.

See Also

[MDRD4](#)

Schwartz.Bedside

Bedside IDMS-traceable Schwartz GFR Calculator for Children

Description

GFR is estimated with the Bedside Schwartz equation for Children based on IDMS serum or plasma creatinine.

This equation is valid in the 1-17 years age range.

Usage

Schwartz.Bedside(creatinine, ht, age)

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
ht	Numeric vector with height in cm
age	Numeric vector with age in years

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in $\text{ml}/\text{min}/1.73 \text{ m}^2$.

Author(s)

Andrew Srisuwananukorn

References

Schwartz GJ, *et al.* New equations to estimate GFR in children with CKD. *J Am Soc Nephrol* 2009; **20**: 629-637.

Stevens.creat.cys *Stevens' formula for a combination of serum creatinine and cystatin C*

Description

GFR estimation using the 3rd formula proposed by Stevens et al. (*Am J Kidney Dis* 2008), which combines creatinine and cystatin C

Usage

Stevens.creat.cys(creatinine, cystatin, sex, age, ethnicity)

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
cystatin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/l
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years
ethnicity	Numeric vector with 0 for non-Black and 1 for Black individuals

Value

The function returns a numeric vector with eGFR values in $\text{ml}/\text{min}/1.73 \text{ m}^2$.

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Stevens LA, *et al.* Estimating GFR using serum cystatin C alone and in combination with serum creatinine: a pooled analysis of 3,418 individuals with CKD. *Am J Kidney Dis* 2008; **51**: 395-406.

See Also

[CKDEpi.creat.cys](#)

Stevens.cys1

GFR estimation using serum cystatin C

Description

GFR is estimated with the 1st formula proposed by Stevens et al. (*Am J Kidney Dis* 2008), i.e.: as a simple transformation of cystatin C, without using any other information

Usage

Stevens.cys1(cystatin)

Arguments

cystatin Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/l

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Stevens LA, *et al.* Estimating GFR using serum cystatin C alone and in combination with serum creatinine: a pooled analysis of 3,418 individuals with CKD. *Am J Kidney Dis* 2008; **51**: 395-406.

See Also

[Stevens.cys2](#), [Stevens.creat.cys](#), [CKDEpi.cys](#)

Stevens.cys2	<i>Stevens' formula for serum cystatin C, age, and sex</i>
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Description

GFR is estimated with the 2nd formula proposed by Stevens et al. (Am J Kidney Dis 2008), where cystatin C is weighted by sex and age

Usage

```
Stevens.cys2(cystatin, sex, age, ethnicity)
```

Arguments

cystatin	Numeric vector with serum or plasma cystatin C values in mg/l
sex	Numeric vector with 0 for females and 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years
ethnicity	Numeric vector with 0 for non-Black and 1 for Black individuals

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in ml/min/1.73 m².

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Stevens LA, *et al.* Estimating GFR using serum cystatin C alone and in combination with serum creatinine: a pooled analysis of 3,418 individuals with CKD. *Am J Kidney Dis* 2008; **51**: 395-406.

See Also

[Stevens.cys1](#), [Stevens.creat.cys](#), [CKDEpi.cys](#)

Virga

Virga's formula

Description

Virga's formula is based on serum creatinine, sex, age, and body weight.

Usage

Virga(creatinine, sex, age, wt)

Arguments

creatinine	Numeric vector with serum or plasma creatinine values in mg/dl
sex	Numeric 0/1 vector: 0 for females, 1 for males
age	Numeric vector with age in years
wt	Numeric vector with weight in kg

Value

A numeric vector with eGFR values in $ml/min/1.73 m^2$

Author(s)

Cristian Pattaro

References

Virga G, *et al.* A new equation for estimating renal function using age, body weight and serum creatinine. *Nephron Clin Pract* 2007; **105**: c43-53.

See Also

[CG](#), [MDRD4](#)

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