Follicular Stimulating Hormone (FSH) (FSH)

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TEST OVERVIEW

Test Name	Follicular Stimulating Hormone (FSH)
Test Code	FSH
Short Description	Follicular Stimulating Hormone (FSH)

OVERVIEW

Test Name	Follicular Stimulating Hormone (FSH)
Test Code	FSH
Category	Immunoassay
TAT	Main Lab: 4 Hour(s) Family Site: <4hrs, <5hrs
Specimen(s)	1 x Venous blood - 5 mL Tube - Gold - SST-Serum Separator Tube

SPECIMEN(S)

SST-Serum Separator Tube

Specimen Type	SST-Serum Separator Tube
Specimen Format	Tube
Specimen Colour	Gold
Specimen Volume	5 mL
Sampling Order	2
Origin	Venous blood
Collection time after baseline	-
Transport Temperature	15-25°C
Accepted Other Specimens	Serum Lithium Heparin Plasma Sodium Heparin Plasma

	EDTA Plasma Sodium Fluoride Plasma
TAT	Main Lab: 4 Hour(s) Family Site: <4hrs, <5hrs
Test Stability	Room Temp: 8 Hour(s) 2–8°C: 1 Day(s)

CLINICAL INFORMATION

Follicular Stimulating Hormone (FSH)

Methodology	-
Specimen Type	SST-Serum Separator Tube
Delay before pre-treatment	3
Transport Temperature	15-25°C
Transport Stability at room temp	8 Hours
Transport Stability at 2–8°C	1 Day
Haemolysis interference	No

Clinical Interest

Human follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH, follitropin) is a glycoprotein secreted by gonadotropic cells in the anterior lobe of the pituitary gland in response to gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) from the medial basal hypothalamus.

In women, hFSH stimulates follicular growth and, in conjunction with hLH, stimulates oestrogen secretion and ovulation. Circulating FSH levels vary throughout the menstrual cycle.

In a normal menstrual cycle, a slight peak in hFSH is observed towards the end of the luteal phase. This peak marks the start of the growth and maturation of the ovarian follicles. Levels of hFSH then fall and remain low during the follicular phase (due to negative feedback from the estradiol and progesterone produced by the developing follicle).
The variations in cycle length observed in women with normal periods are due to variations in the length of the follicular phase.

In postmenopausal women, hFSH levels are elevated in response to reduced ovarian oestrogen and progesterone production, which suppresses the negative feedback mechanism on the pituitary gland. As a result, ovulation and menstrual cycles decline and eventually cease.

In men, hFSH stimulates spermatogenesis via receptors on the Sertoli cells in the seminiferous tubules of the testes.
Human LH and FSH levels are commonly determined in investigations of disorders of the menstrual cycle, fertility and pubertal development, such as ovarian failure, menopause, ovulatory disorders and pituitary insufficiency.

PATIENT INFORMATION

Clinical Information Required	- Day of menstrual cycle
Patient Collection Notes	-

COMMENTS & NOTES

LOINC Code	098-4, 83098-4
Outwork	No