

## Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH) (TSH)

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### TEST OVERVIEW

<b>Test Name</b>	Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH)
<b>Test Code</b>	TSH
<b>Short Description</b>	TSH

### OVERVIEW

<b>Test Name</b>	Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH)
<b>Test Code</b>	TSH
<b>Category</b>	Immunoassay
<b>TAT</b>	Main Lab: 6 Hour(s) Family Site: <6hrs, <8hrs
<b>Specimen(s)</b>	1 x Venous blood - 5 mL Tube - Gold - SST-Serum Separator Tube

### SPECIMEN(S)

#### SST-Serum Separator Tube

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

	EDTA Plasma
<b>TAT</b>	Main Lab: 6 Hour(s) Family Site: <6hrs, <8hrs
<b>Test Stability</b>	Room Temp: 24 Hour(s) 2–8°C: 7 Day(s)

## CLINICAL INFORMATION

### Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH)

<b>Methodology</b>	Chemiluminescent immunoassays (CLIA)
<b>Specimen Type</b>	SST-Serum Separator Tube
<b>Delay before pre-treatment</b>	24
<b>Transport Temperature</b>	15-25°C
<b>Transport Stability at room temp</b>	24 Hours
<b>Transport Stability at 2–8°C</b>	7 Day
<b>Haemolysis interference</b>	<input type="button" value="No"/>

### Clinical Interest

**TSH** is a hormone produced by the pituitary gland that stimulates the thyroid gland to produce thyroid hormones (T3 and T4). These hormones regulate the body's metabolism.

Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone (TSH) assays are critically important in the clinical setting for diagnosing and managing thyroid disorders.

Elevated TSH levels typically indicate hypothyroidism, a condition where the thyroid gland is underactive and does not produce sufficient thyroid hormones. Symptoms include fatigue, weight gain, cold intolerance, and depression.

Patients on thyroid hormone replacement therapy (e.g., levothyroxine) require regular TSH testing to ensure the dosage is appropriate. The goal is to maintain TSH within a target range, usually the lower half of the reference range.

Suppressed or low TSH levels usually indicate hyperthyroidism, a condition where the thyroid gland is overactive, producing excessive thyroid hormones. Symptoms include weight loss, heat intolerance, anxiety, and palpitations.

Patients receiving antithyroid medications, radioactive iodine, or surgery for hyperthyroidism need TSH monitoring to avoid overtreatment and subsequent hypothyroidism.

## PATIENT INFORMATION

<b>Clinical Information Required</b>	History of thyroid or cervical surgery or irradiation Monitoring as part of treatment Current or recent treatments Time of last medication taken Drug name Frequency Pregnancy
<b>Patient Collection Notes</b>	-

## COMMENTS & NOTES

**LOINC Code** 16-3, 3016-3

**Outwork**