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**Lab Dept:** Chemistry

**Test Name:** INHIBIN B

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**General Information**

**Lab Order Codes:** INHIB

**Synonyms:** N/A

**CPT Codes:** 83520 – Immunoassay for analyte other than infectious agent antibody or infectious agent antigen; quantitative, not otherwise specified.

**Test Includes:** Inhibin B level reported in pg/mL.

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** As an aid in the diagnosis of granulosa cell tumors and mucinous epithelial ovarian tumors. Monitoring of patients with granulosa cell tumors and epithelial mucinous-type tumors of the ovary known to over express inhibin B. As an adjunct to follicle-stimulating hormone testing during infertility evaluation.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Chemistry - Sendouts

**Referred to:** Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML Test: INHB)

**Phone Numbers:** MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 1 - 6 days, performed Monday, Wednesday, Friday

**Special Instructions:** N/A

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Blood

**Container:** SST (Gold, marble or red) tube

**Draw Volume:** 1.2 mL (0.6 mL) blood

**Processed Volume:** 0.4 mL (0.2 mL) serum

**Collection:** Routine venipuncture

**Special Processing:** Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove serum aliquot into a screw-capped round bottom plastic vial. Store and ship at refrigerated temperature. Label specimen appropriately. Forward promptly.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Sample Rejection:** Mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; gross hemolysis

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***Interpretive***

**Reference Range:**

<b>Females</b>	
0 – 23 months:	<111 pg/mL
2 – 4 years:	<44 pg/mL
5 – 7 years:	<27 pg/mL
8 – 10 years:	<67 pg/mL
11 – 13 years:	<120 pg/mL
14 – 17 years:	<136 pg/mL
Premenopausal:	
Follicular:	<139 pg/mL
Luteal:	<92 pg/mL
Postmenopausal:	<10 pg/mL
<b>Males</b>	
0 – 23 months:	<430 pg/mL
2 – 4 years:	<269 pg/mL
5 – 7 years:	<184 pg/mL
8 – 10 years:	<214 pg/mL
11 – 13 years:	<276 pg/mL

14 – 17 years:	<273 pg/mL
Adults:	<399 pg/mL
<p>Interpretation: Inhibin B levels are elevated in approximately 89-100% of patients with granulosa cell tumors and in approximately 55-60% of patients with epithelial ovarian tumors. A normal inhibin B level does not rule out a mucinous or granulosa ovarian cell tumor. Testing for inhibin A in these cases might be informative.</p> <p>For monitoring of patients with known ovarian cancer, inhibin B levels decrease to very low or undetectable levels shortly after surgery. Elevations of inhibin B after treatment are suggestive of residual, recurrent, or progressive disease. In patients with recurrent disease, inhibin B elevation seems to be present earlier than clinical symptoms. Patients in remission show normal levels of inhibin B.</p> <p>For infertility evaluation, an inhibin B level in the postmenopausal range is suggestive of a diminished or depleted ovarian reserve.</p>	

**Critical Values:**

N/A

**Limitations:**

Do not interpret serum inhibin levels as absolute evidence of the presence or the absence of malignant disease. Use results in conjunction with information from the clinical evaluation of the patient and other diagnostic procedures.

Inhibin values fluctuate during the menstrual cycle. Inhibin levels in premenopausal women should be interpreted with caution.

Tumor markers are not specific for malignancy and values may vary by testing methodology. The same method should be used to serially monitor patients.

Some patients who have been exposed to animal antigens, either in the environment or as part of treatment or imaging procedures, may have circulating antianimal antibodies present. These antibodies may interfere with the assay reagents to produce unreliable results.

**Methodology:**

Sequential 2-step Immunoenzyme Assay

**References:**

[Mayo Medical Laboratories Web Page](#) November 2017

**Updates:**

11/14/2017: Collection container update.