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**Lab Dept:** Chemistry

**Test Name:** PREGNENOLONE, SERUM

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** PRGNL

**Synonyms:** N/A

**CPT Codes:** 84140 - Pregnenolone

**Test Includes:** Pregnenolone concentration reported as ng/dL.

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Pregnenolone is the precursor (building-block) for all other steroid hormones. It is converted directly into DHEA and/or progesterone. DHEA converts to testosterone and estrogens; progesterone converts to estrogens, cortisol, and aldosterone.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Chemistry - Sendouts

**Referred to:** Esoterix (ESL Test: 500258)

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

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 3 – 6 days, performed Monday – Thursday, Saturday

**Special Instructions:** N/A

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Blood

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

**Draw Volume:** 7.5 mL (Minimum: 3.5 mL) blood  
Note: Minimum volume does not allow for repeat analysis.

**Processed Volume:** 2.5 mL (Minimum: 1.1 mL) serum

**Collection:** Routine venipuncture

**Special Processing:** Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen and remove serum aliquot into a screw-capped plastic vial. Store and ship at frozen temperatures. Forward promptly.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Sample Rejection:** Specimens other than serum; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

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***Interpretive***

<b>Reference Range:</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Range (ng/dL)</b>
	Premature (26-28 wks) Day 4	260 - 2104
	Premature (34-36 wks) Day 4	203 - 1024
	Neonates (1 – 7 days)	150 - 2000
	Prepubertal	20 - 140
	Pubertal and Adults	<20 - 150
Levels decrease after birth and are within the prepubertal range of 20 – 140 by 3 months.		

**Critical Values:** N/A

**Limitations:** N/A

**Methodology:** HPLC – Tandem Mass Spectrometry

**References:** [Esoterix Laboratory Services](#) November 2017

**Updates:** 11/8/2017: Updated collection container