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**Lab Dept:** Urine/Stool

**Test Name:** PREGNANCY TEST, URINE

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** URHCG

**Synonyms:** Urine HCG; preg test; human chorionic gonadotropin

**CPT Codes:** 84703 – Gonadotropin, chorionic (hCG); qualitative

**Test Includes:** Urine pregnancy test reported as positive or negative.

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Useful for the qualitative detection of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) to detect pregnancy.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Urinalysis

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

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 1 hour

**Special Instructions:** N/A

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Urine

**Container:** Urine cup

**Draw Volume:** 1 mL urine

**Processed Volume:** Minimum: 0.5 mL urine

**Collection:** Early morning specimen preferable. No preservative.

**Special Processing:** Label specimen appropriately (urine).

**Patient Preparation:** N/A

**Sample Rejection:**

Volume <0.5 mL urine; mislabeled or unlabeled specimen

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***Interpretive*****Reference Range:**

Negative (reported as positive or negative). Specimens containing as low a level as 20 mIU/mL hCG will yield positive results when tested with hCG Combo Rapid Test®. In normal pregnancy, hCG can be detected as early as 6 days following conception with concentrations doubling every 32 to 48 hours, peaking in excess of 100,000 mIU/mL in approximately 10 to 12 weeks. Levels of 25 mIU/mL hCG are reportedly present in urine and serum as early as 2 to 3 days before expected menses. Serum hCG is rapidly cleared into the urine and the concentration of hCG in serum is approximately equal to the concentration in urine.

**Critical Values:**

N/A

**Limitations:**

Very dilute urine specimens, as indicated by low specific gravity, may not contain representative urinary hCG concentrations.

A specimen with a low level of hCG may show color development over time. If a negative result is obtained but pregnancy is suspected, hCG levels may be too low. Another sample should be collected after 48-72 hours and tested. If waiting 48 hours is not medically advisable, the test should be confirmed with a quantitative hCG test.

This test does not detect hCG degradation products, including free-beta hCG and beta core fragments. Quantitative assays used to detect hCG may detect degradation products and therefore may disagree with the results of this rapid test.

**Methodology:**

Monoclonal Antibody, hCG Combo Rapid Test®

**References:**

hCG Combo Rapid Test Kit Package Insert (2014) Cardinal Health #1155904805, Rev C 9/14

**Update:**

10/1/2017: Updated method, reference range and limitations.