

# Inhibin B

## Synonyms

## Clinical Indication

Inhibin B has been used as a marker of ovarian reserve. The level of inhibin B that predicts a poor response to IVF treatment has not been established and its value as a measure of ovarian reserve has been questioned, given its limitations.

Inhibin B concentrations are elevated in patients with granulosa cell tumours, mucinous cystadenocarcinoma and in some patients with other ovarian tumours. They can also be elevated in benign ovarian pathology.

Inhibin B may be requested in cases of ambiguous genitalia to rule out less common causes of XX virilisation.

Available on request by Consultant Paediatrician, Consultant Oncologist or following discussion with Consultant Biochemist.

## Part of Profile / See Also

## Request Form

Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE request

## Availability / Frequency of Analysis

Analysed by Medical Oncology, Charing Cross Hospital (8673), if clinically indicated.

## Turnaround Time

3 weeks

## Patient Preparation

None

## Sample Requirements

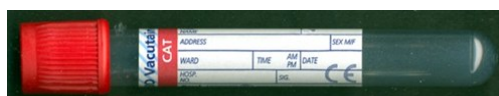
### Specimen Type

Serum/plasma

### Volume

2 ml

### Container



Red top (plain) tube (Yellow top

SST is also acceptable)



Or Paediatric lithium heparin (Orange top – Sarstedt tube)



Or Paediatric plain tube (Red top – BD Microtainer tube). Lithium heparin (green top BD Microtainer) and serum SST (yellow top BD Microtainer) also acceptable.

**Sample must be transported to laboratory and separated within 2 hours of collection. Patients must be bled at Southend or Basildon Hospital only.**

## Reference Range & Units

Values in the pre-menopausal female vary with the stage of the cycle

Female range: < 341 ng/L.

Day of menstrual cycle: <273 ng/L

Post-menopausal: < 5 ng/L.

Male range 25 - 325 ng/L.

Reference ranges in children vary according to age and sex.

## Interferences

## Interpretation & Clinical

## Decision Value (if applicable)

Inhibin levels vary in relation to the menstrual cycle and, therefore, are difficult to interpret in premenopausal women when used as an ovarian cancer marker.

Inhibin B should not be used to diagnose perimenopause or menopause in women aged over 45 years.

Inhibin B should not be used individually to predict outcome of fertility treatment

## References

Paulson R. In vitro fertilization In: UpToDate, Post TW (Ed), UpToDate, Waltham, MA. (Accessed on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018.)

## Test code

INHB

## Lab Handling

Centrifuge and separate within 2 hours of collection. Aliquot 500ul and store in the referrals rack at 4C. The sample does not need to be frozen if sent either the same day of the following day. If sample is taken on a Friday, place aliquot in the frozen referrals rack at -20C.



8673

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