

Progesterone

Working in conjunction with several other female hormones, progesterone is a hormone that helps a woman's body get ready for pregnancy, including preparing the uterus for a fertilized egg. If you become pregnant, progesterone helps you remain pregnant. This test measures the level of progesterone in your blood.

Why should women be tested?

Testing progesterone levels can be used to determine the following:

- Cause of infertility
- Ectopic or failing pregnancy
- Track ovulation
- Abnormal uterine bleeding
- Monitor pregnancy health
- Monitor replacement therapy

What can affect my test results?

Depending on where you are in your menstrual cycle or trimester of pregnancy, your results can vary. In addition, some drugs such as birth control pills and progesterone supplements can affect the results of your test.

What should I do if the results are abnormal?

It is always recommended you meet with a healthcare provider to determine what your laboratory test results mean to you. Your healthcare provider will review all of your test results and, combined with your health history, will be able to provide an accurate course of action.

If your results were low: Low levels of progesterone may be associated with the following:

- Ectopic pregnancy
- Fetal death/miscarriage
- Pre-eclampsia
- Fetal death/miscarriage
- Lack of menstruation (amenorrhea)

If your results were high: Elevated levels of progesterone may be associated with the following:

- Some ovarian cysts
- Non-viable pregnancies known as molar pregnancies
- A rare form of ovarian cancer
- Overproduction by the adrenal glands
- Adrenal cancer
- Congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH)

What other resources are available to learn more about my health and laboratory tests?

- Lab Tests Online: labtestsonline.org
- WebMD: webmd.com

DLO Direct offers direct access to laboratory testing for informational purposes. A DLO Direct lab test result is not a medical diagnosis and is not intended as medical advice. Only a healthcare provider can interpret lab results and diagnose a medical condition or disease.

Because tests have not been ordered by a healthcare provider, third party entities, including Medicare and Medicaid, will not reimburse for these tests.



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