

Are you positive it's negative?



HCG testing in females of childbearing age

All females of child bearing age MUST have an HCG completed prior to any surgical procedure, including bedside procedures (unless exclusion criteria below is met)

❖ Pregnancy status will be assessed so that the patient, in conjunction with her surgical and anesthesia physicians, can make the best decision for her clinical situation in light of an early pregnancy.

❖ A woman in the first trimester may have anesthesia and surgery if her clinical situation warrants and/or the procedure is of little risk to the pregnancy.

Exclusion criteria for HCG testing:

- ❑ Female children who have not begun menarche (had first period)
- ❑ Females who have undergone hormonal menopause (no period for at least one year due to maturation)
- ❑ Females who have had a hysterectomy and/or bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
- ❑ Females who had first day of last period within the last 10 days
- ❑ Females who have had a negative serum pregnancy test within 3 days of day of surgery
- ❑ **NOTE: HCG test is only good for 3 days! Patient may need retested if the most recent result is >3 days old even if they have been in the hospital the entire time!**

Preoperative Protocol Order

- ❖ Obtain a urine specimen on ALL patients meeting the inclusion criteria.
- ❖ The pregnancy test will be completed upon arrival to the hospital on the day of surgery unless the patient meets the exclusion criteria.
- ❖ Pregnancy test results will be documented in the patient's electronic medical record and positive results will be reported to the appropriate service and anesthesia physician.

