

## **PREGNANCY TEST WITH GESTATIONAL AGE (HOW FAR ALONG)**

### **WHO SHOULD GET THIS TEST?**

This test is useful for women who want to know if they are pregnant, and how far along they are in their pregnancy.

### **WHY IS THIS TEST IMPORTANT?**

Pregnancy detection is essential to obtaining prenatal care.

When a fertilized egg implants into the wall of the uterus, it causes the formation of the placenta. The placenta then begins to produce human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) and release it into the blood and the urine. If the egg is not fertilized during ovulation and implantation does not happen, then menstruation occurs.

hCG levels rise quickly until 7-10 weeks of gestation; after that, the levels decline. It is important for healthcare providers to monitor hCG levels, because abnormal hCG levels can be seen in conditions other than pregnancy. Elevated hCG can be seen in testicular cancer, choriocarcinoma, molar pregnancy, or in pregnancies with multiples (twins/triplets). Decreased hCG can be seen in ectopic pregnancy, blighted ovum, or miscarriage.

You can work with your healthcare provider to interpret the results of your hCG test.

## **OTHER RELEVANT TESTS**

If you're interested in this panel, you may also want to consider:

- Gender Reveal

**Website test descriptions and all associated information are provided through Any Lab Test Now and the Product Management Team, in conjunction with the Medical Professionals Committee, and Ekan Essien, MD, Corporate Medical Director.**