

## PROSTATE SPECIFIC ANTIGEN (PSA) FREE AND TOTAL

### **DESCRIPTION**

Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) is a protein that is in the prostate, which is a small gland in males that encircles the urethra. There are two forms of PSA that exist in the blood: PSA total, which is bound to protein and PSA free, which is not bound to protein. The PSA test may be used a tool to screen for and to monitor prostate cancer. Other reasons for elevated PSA levels could be seen with inflammation of the prostate (prostatitis) and benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH). PSA levels tend to increase for all men as they age. PSA testing is also recommended for anyone that has a family history of prostate cancer African-American heritage, or age appropriate screening. PSA is not diagnostic of cancer.

### **FAQs**

#### **AM I REQUIRED TO FAST?**

No, fasting is not required. There are no dietary or medicinal restrictions to take this test.

#### **ARE THERE SPECIAL COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS?**

Do not collect specimen after a transrectal biopsy, results may be falsely elevated.

#### **IS A DOCTOR'S ORDER REQUIRED?**

No. You do not need to provide a doctor's order to get lab testing done at Any Lab Test Now.

#### **WHEN WILL I GET MY TEST RESULTS?**

Test results generally take between 24 to 72 business hours after your specimen is collected.

#### **DO I NEED TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?**

No. You can walk in for same day testing. We make it easy for you by offering work-friendly hours.

#### **IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY TESTS RESULTS WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?**

We recommend you share your results with your primary care physician or with your urologist.

#### **WRITTEN BY:**

#### **EKAN ESSIEN, MD, MPH MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Ekan Essien, MD, MPH, a native Georgian, received his BA from Duke University. Dr. Essien continued his education at Florida A&M University where he received his Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology; received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee; and obtained training in general and trauma surgery at Grady Memorial Hospital at Morehouse School of Medicine. He is a candidate in the post graduate fellowship in anti-aging and regenerative medicine from the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine.