Any Lab Test Now

THYROID STIMULATING HORMONE (TSH) TEST

DESCRIPTION

The thyroid gland is responsible for regulating how your body uses energy. The thyroid also produces hormones critical to proper cell and system functioning.

The Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH) test checks your body's production of TSH and helps screen for thyroid disease, hyperthyroidism and hypothyroidism.

There are two types of thyroid disorders including:

- Hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid) symptoms may include fatigue, weight gain, a short attention span, and numbness or cold intolerance.
- Hyperthyroidism (overactive thyroid) symptoms may include weight loss, persistent vomiting, increased blood pressure, hair loss or a persistently fast heart rate.

WHY DO I NEED THIS TEST?

Are you always tired? Does your weight fluctuate? It may be the result of a dysfunctional thyroid. If there is a thyroid level imbalance in your body, you may be more susceptible to everything from osteoporosis and heart disease to infertility and fatigue.

Thyroid disorders are more common in women and they often occur after pregnancy and with older age.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO GET MY LAB TEST RESULTS?

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

AM I REQUIRED TO FAST FOR THIS LAB TEST?

No. You are not required to fast for this test.

OTHER RELEVANT LAB TESTS

If you're interested in this test, you might also want to consider the T4 Total, T3 Uptake and Thyroxine Index. If you want all of these and more, you should consider the Thyroid Panel.

WRITTEN BY:

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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.