

Testing Ovulation Function:

Note – you will not need a “test” of ovulation function if you do NOT have periods at all or only have a period if induced with prescription progesterone. In such cases, we skip to “additional” tests below.

Blood progesterone level

Drawn 5-7 days *after* ovulation

You do NOT need an office appointment to come in and have your blood drawn, but call 770 255-2546 to schedule the blood “draw”

You must be certain of your ovulation timing for a blood progesterone level to be interpretable. Please use an ovulation test kit or a basal body temperature graph if you are not entirely sure of your ovulation.

Additional Testing: If you do not ovulate or if your progesterone level is found to be low, we will recommend some or all of the following tests:

TSH (thyroid stimulating hormone) - drawn any cycle day

Fasting prolactin – drawn any cycle day

Fasting glucose – drawn any cycle day

Fasting insulin – drawn any cycle day

Insulin challenge test – drawn any cycle day

FSH (follicle stimulating hormone) – drawn on cycle day 2 or 3

Estradiol – drawn on cycle day 2 or 3

Testing Tubal Patency:

There is only one basic test of tubal patency, a **hysterosalpingogram or HSG**. An HSG is an X-ray of your fallopian tubes and uterine cavity performed in a radiology department (outpatient or at a hospital). An HSG is typically done between cycle days 7-11 but could be done sooner if you have short cycles.

To schedule your HSG call Marcia Hunnicutt (770 544-2305) or Andrea White (770 544-2226) **after your period begins**. They will go over additional details.

Testing For Male Factor Problems:

The initial screening test is a **semen analysis (SA)**. Your partner needs to ejaculate into a specimen cup at home and get the specimen to the lab (at room temperature) within an hour. He needs to abstain from ejaculating for 2-3 days prior to the collection.

I recommend you take the specimen to one of the reproductive endocrine practices (RBA, ACRM, GRS, or Emory – see web links for locations). For your convenience these practices have both main offices and satellite offices. The satellite offices may not be able to handle a semen specimen 5 days a week, so please call the actual location you’re going to use to confirm they’ll be able to run the test.

RBA – <http://www.rba-online.com/>

ACRM – <http://www.acrm.com/>

GRS – <http://www.ivf.com/>

Emory - <http://www.emoryhealthcare.org/departments/ivf/index.html>