

THYROID
STIMULATING
HORMONE,
PLASMA/
SERUM

Orderable - TSH

Turnaround Time: 4 hours

STAT: 1 hour

Alternate Name(s):

TSH
TSH-3
Thyrotropin

Specimen:

Adult:	Pediatric:
4.5 mL Green top Vacutainer tube	0-2 years: 0.5 mL Light Green top Microtainer 2-10 years: 3 mL Light Green top Vacutainer tube
Red, Gold, or Lavender (EDTA) top tubes are also acceptable	

Collection Information:

Minimum volume of plasma or serum required is 700 µL for adult samples or 200 µL for pediatric samples.

Reference Ranges:

Age	Range
0 – 6 days:	0.70 – 15.2 mIU/L
6 days – 3 months:	0.72 – 11.0 mIU/L
3 – 12 months:	0.73 – 8.35 mIU/L
1 – 6 years:	0.70 – 5.97 mIU/L
6 – 11 years:	0.60 – 4.84 mIU/L
11 – 20 years:	0.51 – 4.30 mIU/L
> 20 years:	0.27 – 4.20 mIU/L

Interpretive Comments:

TSH should be the initial test to screen for clinically-suspected hypothyroidism or



Laboratory:
Core Lab



Requisition:
GENERAL LABORATORY
REQUISITION



Method of Analysis:
Roche
Electrochemiluminescence



Test Schedule:
As required

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hyperthyroidism. If TSH is below the lower cut-off, FT4 and FT3 testing will be performed reflexively by the laboratory. If TSH is between the lower and upper cut-offs, no FT4 or FT3 testing will be performed reflexively. If TSH is above the upper cut-off, FT4 testing will be performed reflexively by the laboratory. These cut-offs are the TSH reference intervals in children and the optimal cut-offs to predict abnormal FT4 levels in adults.

The TSH cut-offs are:

2 – <6 years: <0.70 or >5.97 mIU/L

6 – <11 years: <0.60 or >4.84 mIU/L

11 – <18 years: <0.51 or >4.30 mIU/L

≥18 years: <0.58 or >6.30 mIU/L

Repeat testing of TSH should be limited to a period greater than 6 weeks, except in pregnant patients.