

FREE
ANDROGEN
INDEX,
PLASMA/
SERUM

Orderable - FAI

Turn Around Time: 5 days

Alternate Name(s):

FAI
Free Testosterone

Specimen:

Adult	Pediatric
4.5 mL Light 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 or Gold top tubes are also acceptable	
Lavender top (EDTA) tubes are NOT acceptable	

Collection Information:

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

Reference Ranges:

Male	
Age	Range
20 – 49 years	35.0 – 92.6 %
≥ 50 years:	24.3 – 72.1 %

Female	
Age	Range
20 – 49 years	0.3 – 5.6 %
≥ 50 years:	0.2 – 3.6 %

Interpretive Comments:

The free androgen index (FAI) or free testosterone index (FTI) provides a convenient



Laboratory:
Core Lab



Requisition:
GENERAL LABORATORY
REQUISITION



Method of Analysis:
Roche
Electrochemiluminescence



Test Schedule:
Monday - Friday
0800-1600



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estimate of the free testosterone level from the independent measurement of both the total testosterone and the sex hormone binding globulin (SHBG) level. It is calculated from the equation:

FAI = total testosterone (nmol/L)/SHBG (nmol/L) expressed as a percentage.

The FAI can be used as a surrogate measure of bio-available testosterone for those cases where the serum albumin level is normal. Results should be interpreted with caution in patients with decreased albumin levels such as nephrotic syndrome or liver cirrhosis.

Comments:

Biotin may interfere with this test. Samples should not be taken from patients receiving high biotin doses (i.e. > 5 mg/day) until at least 8 hours after the last biotin administration.

Storage and Shipment:

Store and ship plasma or serum frozen.