

hCG STIMULATION TEST

Your doctor has asked you to have an hCG (human chorionic gonadotropin) stimulation test done, to determine if your child's body is making the right amount of a hormone called testosterone. Testosterone is the "male hormone" made in the testes. Its job is to control the growth and development of the male genitalia and stimulate the changes of puberty at the appropriate time.

How is this test done?

Your endocrinologist will ask you to have a blood test done on your child before and after a sequence of small injections. S/he is checking to see how much hormone the child's testes are making when stimulated to do so. The hormone that is given to your child is called human chorionic gonadotropin, and it is available by prescription. Ask your family doctor to dilute the powder with 2.0 mL of diluent, so that your child receives only a small volume of medication.

Your endocrinologist will ask you to follow the following schedule:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>By Whom/Where</u>
1. pre-stimulation blood test	_____	_____
2. hCG _____ IU IM	_____	_____
3. hCG _____ IU IM	_____	_____
4. hCG _____ IU IM	_____	_____
5. post-stimulation blood test	_____	_____

Are there any side effects from the medication?

The medication is a hormone that is very similar to the hormone made naturally by the body. Usually, there are no side effects, and the hormone is quickly eliminated from the child's body.

When will the results be available?

The results are available about one month after the last blood test, although special tests may take longer. Your doctor will call you with the results if they are different from what is expected.