

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How does the test work?

A: This pregnancy test detects a hormone called hCG that the body makes during pregnancy. The hormone is found in urine when pregnant.

Q: When can I take a pregnancy test?

A: This test is designed to test for hCG as early as 5 days before the day of an expected period. In lab testing, accuracy was as follows:

Number of days before expected period	% of samples from pregnant people giving a positive result
1-3	>99%
4	96%
5	76%

Note: Some pregnant people may not have detectable amounts of hCG in their urine on the day they test, or may have miscalculated the first day of their expected period.

Q: How long will the result last?

A: Read your results in 3-10 mins. ***Pregnancy test results are only accurate within 10 mins,*** and reading the results after that time can lead to confusion. If after 3 mins there are zero lines showing up, the test is invalid and you should get a new test.

Q: What do I do if the result is positive?

A: This test is not intended to replace a healthcare professional's diagnosis. See a healthcare professional to confirm that you are pregnant. You can make an appointment at Health Services via the student portal or by calling 617-627-3350.

Q: What do I do if the result is negative?

A: You may not be pregnant, or it may be too soon to tell. It may be possible you miscalculated the length of your cycle or your urine may not have had enough hCG for the test to give a positive result. If you do not get your period within 7 days, you should retest with another pregnancy test or see a healthcare provider.

Q: Do any drugs or medications affect the test?

A: Only medications containing hCG, such as A.P.L., Pregnyl, or Profasi. The test should not be impacted by other hormone therapies, other medications, or the morning after pill.



Want to speak to someone confidentially? Make an appointment with a CARE Sex Health Consultant to address any pregnancy or other sexual health-related questions or concerns. Anything else? Relationships? Sexual misconduct? Make a confidential appointment with Alexandra or Emma.