

Pregnancy Testing

Who needs a pregnancy test?

All female patients age 12 or older or women who have a period, will need a pregnancy test before surgery. Surgery, procedures and some medicines can be harmful to a developing fetus. The only way to be absolutely sure that you or your daughter are not pregnant is to perform a pregnancy test before any surgery or procedure.

When is the test done?

A pregnancy test will need to be completed within 7 days of your surgery or procedure. Sometimes this is able to be completed at your primary clinic during your History and Physical before coming to Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. If this is not possible or is not completed, a pregnancy test will be done at Gillette on the day of surgery.

How is it done?

We will use either a urine or a blood sample for this test.

How are the results given to us?

All positive results are given confidentially to the patient. The patient then has the right to decide the best time to share this information. According to Minnesota law, anyone age 17 and younger can give consent to be tested for pregnancy and to have treatment for pregnancy without consent from their parents.

What if my daughter is pregnant?

Medical staff and a social worker will be available to assist you or your daughter if there is a pregnancy that was not expected. If you or your daughter is pregnant, the surgeon and the anesthesiologist will decide if the surgery will proceed as scheduled or postponed to another time. The social worker will be available to offer support and help discuss the results. The social worker will also provide a list of community resources that you or your daughter can use for further support.

[Make An Appointment 651-290-8707](#) [Refer a Patient 651-325-2200](#)

This information is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care providers. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor or others on your health care team.

If you are a Gillette patient with urgent questions or concerns, please contact Telehealth Nursing at [651-229-3890](#).