



Antral Follicle Count

As women age, the number of eggs in the ovary become depleted and fertility decreases.

There are some tests that can measure ovarian reserve. A FSH blood test on cycle day 3 and a clomiphene citrate challenge test are indirect tests that may indicate ovarian reserve. Several newer tests of ovarian reserve have been studied. Inhibin B can be measured in the blood on cycle day 3. Low levels of Inhibin B can indicate a decreased ovarian reserve. Another new marker of ovarian response is the anti-mullerian hormone (AMH). This is measured on a blood test at any time of the menstrual cycle. Low levels of AMH may result in a poor response to ovulation medications.

An ultrasound measurement of the number of developing follicles in the ovary is another way to measure ovarian reserve. This is called an antral follicle count. If a decreased number of antral follicles are present on cycle day 3, there may be a decreased response to medications for fertility and a lower pregnancy rate.