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for you. Many people love the chance to find out early. But ultra-sensitive tests can also detect pregnancies that may not continue, often called chemical pregnancies. These very early losses are common (about 1 in 4 pregnancies), and not everyone wants to be aware of them. For some, knowing everything as soon as possible feels empowering. For others, it can be emotionally overwhelming. Think about your own preferences and emotional readiness before reaching for an early pregnancy test. First Response Early Result is currently the most sensitive pregnancy test, detecting hCG as low as 6.3 mIU/mL. Wondfo and Natalist also rank high, detecting levels around 10 mIU/mL. Tips for Testing with Sensitive Pregnancy Tests Test first thing in the morning for the most concentrated urine. Don't drink a lot of liquid before testing. It can dilute your urine. Know your ovulation date, if possible. Testing too early can lead to a false negative. Stay grounded. Whether it's positive or not, be gentle with yourself. Pregnancy Test Sensitivity - FAQ First Response Early Result is one of the most sensitive pregnancy tests, detecting as little as 6.3 mIU/mL of hCG. Yes. Store brands like Equate, CVS, and Up & Up often use similar technology and typically detect hCG at 25 mIU/mL, just like name brands. Usually not. Most digital tests detect hCG at 25 mIU/mL or higher, making them less sensitive than some line-based tests. Sensitivity refers to how soon a test can detect hCG. Accuracy means how reliably it gives the correct result once hCG is present. Yes. If the faint line appears within the test's time window, it usually means a positive result. Retest in 48 hours to confirm. Yes. If you test too early, hCG may not be high enough to detect. Wait a few days and test again. Extended FAQ Questions: A lower sensitivity (like 6.3 or 10 mIU/mL) means the test can detect pregnancy earlier. However, it may also detect very early pregnancies that don't continue, such as chemical pregnancies. Whether that's better depends on how early you want to know and how you feel about knowing everything right away. Check the label or packaging for the hCG detection level. The lower the number (like 6.3 or 10 mIU/mL), the more sensitive the test is. Anything under 20 mIU/mL is considered highly sensitive and may detect pregnancy before your missed period. hCG levels vary, but on average, they're around 25 mIU/mL at 10 days past ovulation (DPO), 50 mIU/mL at 12 DPO, and 100 mIU/mL at 14 DPO. Levels typically double every 2 to 3 days in a healthy early pregnancy. Yes. Sensitive tests may detect very early pregnancies that don't continue. These early losses, known as chemical pregnancies, are common. Some people appreciate having this information, while others prefer not to know unless the pregnancy progresses further. First thing in the morning, your urine is most concentrated after you've slept, which makes it easier for sensitive tests to detect even low levels of hCG. Yes. Drinking too much water before testing can dilute your urine, making it harder for the test to detect hCG. For the most accurate result, avoid overhydrating and use your first morning urine. They might, but they're not reliable. Over time, the chemicals in the test can degrade, leading to false negatives or unclear results. Always check the expiration date before testing. Yes. Many dollar store brands detect hCG at 25 mIU/mL, the same as name-brand tests. They're a budget-friendly option and can be just as accurate when used correctly. Yes. It's possible to test too early, before your hCG levels are high enough to detect. If your period doesn't arrive, retest in a few days. Many people get a positive only after their missed period, especially if implantation happened later than average. FIRST RESPONSE™ Our #1 best-selling pregnancy test Over 99% accurate from the day of your expected period 2 Detects all forms of the pregnancy hormone 3 Read your results in just 3 minutes Curious which pregnancy test will show results the earliest? Use this sensitivity chart to find the best test for your needs. Pregnancy Test Sensitivity Chart Brand Test Name / Type Sensitivity First Response Early Result & Rapid Result 6.3 mIU/mL Wondfo Early Result Pregnancy Test Strips 10 mIU/mL Natalist Early Pregnancy Test 10 mIU/mL Fairhaven Health BFP Test Strip & Midstream 20 mIU/mL Clearblue Digital Pregnancy Test w/ Smart Countdown 25 mIU/mL AccuMed Pregnancy Test Strips 25 mIU/mL PREGMATE Pregnancy Test Strips 25 mIU/mL MomMed Pregnancy Test Strips 25 mIU/mL Clinical Guard® HCG Test Strips 25 mIU/mL Easy@Home Early Detection Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL CVS Early Result Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL CVS Digital Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL CVS One-Step Cassette Test 50 mIU/mL Rite Aid One Step Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL Walgreens Midstream Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL Walgreens Digital Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL Walgreens Cassette Pregnancy Test 50 mIU/mL Walmart (Equate) +/- Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL Walmart (Equate) Early Result Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL Target (Up & Up) Early Result Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL Dollar Store Mini-strip, cassette, and midstream 25 mIU/mL Equate +/- Test and Digital Test 25 mIU/mL Answer Early Result & Lab Pregnancy Strips 25 mIU/mL Fact Plus +/- Cassette 25-40 mIU/mL Early Detect Early Result Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL Clear Choice With collection cup 25 mIU/mL Confirm 1-Step Early Result Pregnancy Test 25 mIU/mL Drug Emporium Store Brand Pregnancy Test 50 mIU/mL Choosing a Pregnancy Test with the Right Sensitivity Not all pregnancy tests detect pregnancy at the same time. What sets them apart is their sensitivity, specifically, how much hCG (human chorionic gonadotropin) the test needs to detect a pregnancy. The most sensitive pregnancy tests can pick up as little as 6.3 mIU/mL of hCG, which means they may show a positive result earlier than others. In early pregnancy, hCG levels typically range between 5 to 50 mIU/mL about a week before your period is due and double every 2 to 3 days. A low hCG level pregnancy test can help you find out sooner, especially if you're tracking ovulation closely. But even the most sensitive test needs time. Every body has its own rhythm, and if implantation happens a little later or hCG builds more slowly, it might still say negative at first—even if you're already pregnant. Should You Use the Most Sensitive Pregnancy Test? It depends on what feels right for you. Many people love the chance to find out early. But ultra-sensitive tests can also detect pregnancies that may not continue, often called chemical pregnancies. These very early losses are common (about 1 in 4 pregnancies), and not everyone wants to be aware of them. For some, knowing everything as soon as possible feels empowering. For others, it can be emotionally overwhelming. Think about your own preferences and emotional readiness before reaching for an early pregnancy test. First Response Early Result is currently the most sensitive pregnancy test, detecting hCG as low as 6.3 mIU/mL. Wondfo and Natalist also rank high, detecting levels around 10 mIU/mL. Tips for Testing with Sensitive Pregnancy Tests Test first thing in the morning for the most concentrated urine. Don't drink a lot of liquid before testing. It can dilute your urine. Know your ovulation date, if possible. Testing too early can lead to a false negative. Stay grounded. Whether it's positive or not, be gentle with yourself. Pregnancy Test Sensitivity - FAQ First Response Early Result is one of the most sensitive pregnancy tests, detecting as little as 6.3 mIU/mL of hCG. 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First Response specialises in producing pregnancy tests that are sensitive enough to detect low levels of the pregnancy hormone human chorionic gonadotropin. First Response pregnancy tests have an extremely high accuracy rate and can give accurate results up to six days before you are due to have a period. First Response is a market leader and has built an excellent reputation based on reliability and accuracy; the tests are designed to be easy to use. First Response is committed to enabling women to conceive and offers a wealth of information and advice to pregnant women and women who are trying to conceive. The First Response range of pregnancy tests is examined in greater detail below: First Response Early Result Pregnancy Test The First Response Early Result Pregnancy Test is a revolutionary product that enables you to tell if you're pregnant before you've even missed a period. The Early Result pregnancy test can be used as early as six days before your period is due; the test is 62% accurate six days before your period, 87% accurate four days before and 99% accurate 2 days before your period is due. The Early Result pregnancy test works by detecting the pregnancy hormone hCG in the urine; this test is very sensitive so it can detect even low levels of the hormone, meaning results can be produced earlier than many home pregnancy tests. The early Result test is easy to use and only requires you to urinate for a few seconds; the results appear quickly, after just three minutes. The results are easy to interpret; if there is one pink line, you are not pregnant and if there are two pink lines, you are pregnant. If you get a positive result, it is very likely that you are pregnant, however, negative results are less reliable and you are advised to do another test. Negative results can be produced if the concentration of hCG is very low; it is best to do a test a few days later when the levels of hCG are higher. First Response Daily Ovulation Tests The First Response Daily Ovulation Test has been specially developed for women who are trying to conceive a baby and are having troubles. The tests detect the level of LH in the urine; LH (luteinizing hormone) is constantly in attendance in the urine but levels rise slightly prior to ovulation; during this window of time, fertility is at its peak and conception is more likely. The Daily Ovulation test is over 99% accurate in predicting peak fertility time. This test enables couples to maximise their chances of conceiving by knowing when ovulation is about to occur. The test should be taken at a similar time each day to ensure results are accurate and should begin the day after your period finishes. Try to avoid drinking lots of fluid before you do the test, as this may affect the result. The Daily Ovulation tests are stored in re-sealable pouches; it is imperative to reseal the pouch immediately after you have taken the test you are using out. Once you have taken the test out, read the instructions carefully, do the test and then wait five minutes for the results. The instructions will explain what to look out for; if the result line is darker than the reference line, your levels of LH are higher than usual, meaning you are due to ovulate. First Response Easy Read Ovulation test The First Choice Easy Read Ovulation test has been specially designed to help women discover when they are due to ovulate so that they can increase their chances of conceiving a baby. Ovulation occurs mid cycle and fertility is maximised for a period of two or three days; if you are having problems conceiving it could be down to the fact that you're not having sex during this window. The Easy Read Ovulation test works in the same way as the Daily Ovulation tests; the test measures the levels of LH in the urine. The test is simple and produces results quickly; if two purple lines appear, your levels of LH are higher than usual, indicating you are due to ovulate. During this time, you are more likely to conceive. The Easy Read Ovulation test should be used eleven days following the start of your period; the first day should be counted as day one. The test is easy to use; simply hold it under the stream of urine for a few seconds and then wait for the results; it is important that you read the instructions carefully before you do the test. Types of pregnancy test available: Objective: To determine the sensitivity of seven over-the-counter pregnancy tests (OTC-PTs) using urine containing a mixture of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG)-related molecules as found on the first day of missed menstrual period. Design: Blinded in vitro sensitivity analysis. Setting: Medical school laboratory. Participants: None. Interventions: Urine was tested with OTC-PT devices at titers of 100, 50, 25, 12.5, 6.3, and 0 mIU/mL. hCG immunoreactivity, and laboratory workers rated their confidence in the test result based on whether the test result was a clear, sharp, and unquestionable band in the test window. Main outcome measures: Analytical sensitivity, defined as the urine concentration at which all OTC-PTs tested gave a positive result regardless of operator confidence score; clinical sensitivity of OTC-PTs, defined as the proportion of pregnancies likely to be detected on the first day of a missed period and calculated from the analytical sensitivity and a recently published regression curve for total urine hCG immunoreactivity in 25 urine samples from this period of gestation; percentage of tested devices showing a band in the test window at a specific hCG concentration measured devices positive; percentage faulty devices, defined as the proportion of tested devices failing to yield a band in the control window; and confidence score, determined from operator ratings for each device at each concentration of hCG. Results: First Response Early Result had an analytical sensitivity of 6.3 mIU/mL, which was estimated to detect greater than 95% of pregnancies on the day of missed period. The sensitivity of Clearblue Easy Earliest Results was 25 mIU/mL, which indicated detection of 80% of pregnancies. The sensitivity of the five other products was 100 mIU/mL or greater, indicating detection of 16% or less of pregnancies. Three of these last products included faulty devices. Conclusion: Universal claims for OTC-PTs of more than 99% laboratory accuracy and use as early as the first day of missed period, while cleared for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, are ambiguous and inappropriate for many products, according to these data. The majority of products tested were found to detect only a small percentage of pregnancies on the first day of a missed menstrual period. Until more data become available on the actual clinical sensitivity of these products, pharmacists should advise consumers to be cautious in interpreting test results.