Clinical Use
• Early detection of pregnancy

Reference Range
<1 μg/L

Interpretive Information
• Pregnancy
• Trophoblastic tumors

Clinical Background
ITA is a hyperglycosylated form of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) secreted during embryonic implantation and trophoblast invasion of the uterine wall. ITA levels rise early in pregnancy, during which time almost 100% of hCG-related molecules is ITA. By 12 weeks of gestation, less than 2.9% of hCG-related molecules is ITA. Measurement of ITA rather than regular hCG therefore allows more dependable detection of pregnancy in the week after a missed menstrual period.

Method
• Electrochemiluminescence assay (ECLA)
• Analytical sensitivity: 0.5 μg/L
• Analytical specificity: <3.5% cross-reactivity with hCG; <1% cross-reactivity with other glycoprotein hormones

Specimen Requirements
2 mL room temperature serum
0.2 mL minimum
No additive red top preferred
SST red top acceptable