### PORPHOBILINOGEN (PBG), QUALITATIVE, URINE

*(Column chromatography)*

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**Note:**
1. Positive test results should be confirmed by quantitative PBG & Porphyrin estimation
2. Negative results should be confirmed by quantitative PBG if suspicion of Acute Porphyria is high

**Comments**

Porphobilinogen (PBG) is a porphyrin precursor excreted in urine in patients with Acute intermittent porphyria (AIP), Porphyria variegate (PV) and Hereditary coproporphyria. Acute attacks of Porphyria in individuals with the trait can be caused by drugs like Barbiturates, Sulphonamides, Aminophylline, Griseofulvin and Oral contraceptive agents which increase the synthesis of 5-ALA and PBG. In general, PBG is the more important of the precursors whereas ALA measurement is used as a supplemental test.