



7880
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ISO 15189:2012

Coeliac Screen

Synonyms

tTG, tissue transglutaminase, anti-gliadin antibodies, anti-endomysial antibodies

Clinical Indication

Coeliac disease symptoms are diverse but typically include gastrointestinal problems, fatigue, failure to thrive, weight loss and mouth ulcers. Some patients can present with the itchy skin rash dermatitis herpetiformis.

There is an association with other autoimmune diseases such as type-1 diabetes and autoimmune thyroid disease.

The coeliac disease screening test is IgA autoantibodies against tissue transglutaminase (IgA tTG). Requests for anti-endomysial or anti-gliadin antibodies will be screened for the presence of IgA tTG.

Samples found to be IgA tTG positive or equivocal will be tested for the presence of anti endomysial IgA for confirmation.

Part of Profile / See Also

Request Form

Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE request

Availability / Frequency of Analysis

Assay performed daily Monday to Friday

Turnaround Time

5 days

Patient Preparation

To avoid false-negative results, patients should be on a gluten-containing diet for approx. 6 weeks prior to the blood test.

Sample Requirements

Please note a separate sample is required when Immunology tests are requested in addition to Biochemistry tests

Specimen Type

Serum

Volume

2 ml

Container



Yellow top (SST) tube



Or paediatric Brown top serum tube

Reference Range & Units

IgA tTG
Negative: <7.0 U/mL
Equivocal: 7.0 - 10.0 U/mL
Positive: >10.0 U/mL

IgG tTG
Negative: <7.0 U/mL
Equivocal: 7.0 - 10.0 U/mL
Positive: >10.0 U/mL

Interferences

Lithium-heparin plasma samples, heavily haemolysed or lipaemic samples are not suitable

Interpretation & Clinical

Decision Value (if applicable)

IgA tTG provides the most sensitive (~90%) and specific (96%) marker for coeliac disease.

IgA tTG antibody will be negative in IgA deficient individuals. These patients are further tested for IgG tTG which can be present in IgA negative coeliac disease patients.

Please note: The tTG IgA assay should not be considered diagnostic, but should be used in conjunction with all clinical and laboratory findings. Referral to gastroenterology may be required to confirm coeliac disease.

References

NICE guideline NG20

<https://labtestsonline.org.uk>

Test code

COES

Lab Handling

Aliquot and store at 4°C prior to testing and at -20°C or below for up to one month after receipt.