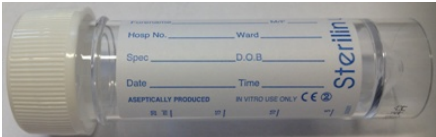





CSF Oligoclonal Bands

Synonyms	OCB, Oligo
Clinical Indication	<p>Suspected CNS inflammation. Particularly demyelinating syndromes such as multiple sclerosis.</p> <p>The following must be indicated on the request form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clinical indication for request - provisional or differential diagnosis. - Length of history - Myelogram etc. as available.
Part of Profile / See Also	
Request Form	Combined Pathology manual request form or ICE request
Availability / Frequency of Analysis	Referred Test: Analysed by the Neuroimmunology Department, National Hospital, Queens Square, London, if specific criteria met.
Turnaround Time	2 weeks
Patient Preparation	None required
Sample Requirements	
Specimen Type	It is essential that the CSF samples is accompanied by a serum sample (ideally taken the same day but no more than +/- 14 days).
Volume	Minimum of 0.5 ml.
Container	 <p>White Capped Universal for the CSF</p>  <p>Ensure blood is collected into a yellow top (SST) tube preferably. It is also acceptable to collect blood into a green top lithium heparin tube.</p> <p>Or  Paediatric SST (Brown top – Sarstedt tube)</p> <p>Or  Paediatric SST (Yellow top – BD Microtainer)</p>
Reference Range & Units	
Interferences	Haemolysed samples may be unsuitable for analysis
Interpretation & Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)	<p>A paired serum is required for interpretation (this can be taken a maximum of 14 days from the CSF sample).</p> <p>Oligoclonal bands in CSF indicates local synthesis in the CNS and will be found in up to 95 percent of patients with clinically definite MS, but may also be</p>

found in infections or autoimmune diseases affecting the CNS.

Presence of identical oligoclonal bands in both CSF and serum suggests passive transfer of oligoclonal IgG from a systemic inflammatory response. This pattern is more common in peripheral neuropathies, Guillain-Barre syndrome, systemic autoimmune diseases and systemic infections. It is unlikely that such a pattern indicated MS.

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OLIG

Aliquot the serum and CSF and store in the referrals rack at 4°C. Clearly label the aliquots with the sample type (CSF or serum). If serum was not sent with the CSF then search the patient record for a serum sample within 14 days of the CSF and this can be used as the paired serum. Sent daily by courier to Neuroimmunology, National Hospital, London.

References

Test code

Lab Handling



8045

Accredited to
ISO 15189:2022