

## HLA-DQ2 and DQ8

### Synonyms

*Coeliac*

### Clinical Indication

Susceptibility to coeliac disease is linked to certain human leukocyte antigen (HLA) class II alleles, especially in the HLA-DQ region. HLA DQ2/DQ8 alleles are found in virtually all patients with coeliac disease (>99% specificity). HLA DQ2/DQ8 testing should not be used in the initial diagnosis of coeliac disease. However, its high negative predictive value may be of use in specific clinical situations where serology is inaccurate such as hypo or hyper-globulinaemic states or where diagnosis is otherwise in doubt, such as in patients already on a gluten free diet. In children the HLA type and positive tTG allows diagnosis without biopsy.

Requested by Consultant Gastroenterologist/Paediatrian for rule-out of coeliac disease where diagnosis is in doubt. In children, may be used to support a positive serological diagnosis without biopsy.

### Part of Profile / See Also

### Request Form

Combined Pathology Blood form or ICE request. Please send a separate request form (and sample) if other Pathology tests requested and ensure that HLA DQ2/DQ8 is clearly written.

### Availability / Frequency of Analysis

Samples should be received Mon-Thursday.

Sample sent to referral laboratory. [Royal London 8285](#)

### Turnaround Time

1 week

### Patient Preparation

None required

### Sample Requirements

#### Specimen Type

Whole blood (EDTA)

#### Volume

3-4 ml

#### Container



Purple top (EDTA) tube



Or Paediatric Lavender top (EDTA) tube

### Reference Range & Units

N/A

### Interferences

### Interpretation & Clinical

#### Decision Value (if applicable)

Negative HLA-DQ2 and DQ8 virtually excludes coeliac disease (>99% specificity). Since approximately 40% of the population are positive for these alleles a positive result is not diagnostic for coeliac disease.

### References

### Test code

HLA

### Lab Handling

Samples should be posted to the Reference Laboratory as soon as possible to reach reference lab within 72 hours of bleeding.