

PF-PTD-144

GAD Antibody

Synonyms	Glutamic Acid Decarboxylase Antibody, GADA, GAD65
Clinical Indication	GAD is found in pancreatic B-cells and in cerebellum, sympathetic ganglia and the testis. Antibodies to different epitopes of GAD have been described in association with type 1 diabetes mellitus (DM) (GAD65) and Stiff Person Syndrome (GAD65 and GAD67).
	GAD antibodies are used to diagnose Stiff Person Syndrome (SPS). This is a rare condition characterised by muscle rigidity, spasm and heightened sensitivity to external stimuli.
	For requests relating to the use of GAD antibodies to assess the risk of developing type 1 DM in asymptomatic, high risk population i.e. siblings of type 1 DM patient, please request the Diabetes Antibody Panel.
	GAD antibodies are NOT used for routine diagnosis of type 1 DM.
Part of Profile / See Also	Diabetes antibody panel
Request Form	Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE
Availability / Frequency of	Referred test analysed by: Protein Reference Unit, Sheffield (8494)
Analysis	
Turnaround Time	2 weeks
Patient Preparation	None required
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	Or Paediatric Yellow top (SST) tube
Reference Range & Units	Negative: < 5 U/mL
	Equivocal: 5.1-24 U/mL
	Positive: >25 U/mL
Interferences	None known
Interpretation & Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)	GAD65 antibodies are found in 80% of patients with Stiff person syndrome. GAD antibodies are typically found at 50-100 fold higher concentrations in SPS compared to type 1 DM.
References	https://sheffieldlaboratorymedicine.nhs.uk/search-test.php?search=3153
Test code	GAD
Version 1.8 / April 2025	ved by: Consultant Clinical Scientist (Immunology)



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Lab Handling

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



Accredited to ISO 15189:2022