



Pemphigus/pemphigoid antibodies

Synonyms	Skin antibodies, Epidermal antibodies
Clinical Indication	Skin antibodies are helpful in the investigation of bullous skin disorders such as pemphigus vulgaris and bullous pemphigoid.
Part of Profile / See Also	
Request Form	Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE request
Availability / Frequency of Analysis	Referred test: Analysed by Bart's and the Royal London Hospital 8285
Turnaround Time	1 month
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	 Yellow top (SST) tube  Paediatric Yellow top (SST) tube
Reference Range & Units	Normal result = negative.
Interferences	
Interpretation & Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)	<p>Positive screens are quantified for desmoglein (DSG1/3) or bullous pemphigoid antigen (BP120/180) as appropriate. This additional testing increased the turnaround time.</p> <p>Pemphigus Vulgaris (PV) - antibodies directed against the cell surface of epidermal keratinocytes are found in 90% of patients with Pemphigus and correlate with disease activity.</p> <p>Bullous Pemphigoid - antibodies directed against the basement membrane are present in 70% of patients. Antibody levels do not reflect disease activity and antibody tends to persist even following successful therapy. Antibodies are uncommon in normal individuals or in other skin diseases.</p>
References	
Test code	PEMP
Lab Handling	Aliquot and store at 4°C prior to testing and at -20°C or below for up to one month after receipt.