


CSF - Neurodegenerative screen

Synonyms	CSF S100b, CSF Total Tau, CSF Amyloid Beta 1-42, CSF phosphorylated Tau
Clinical Indication	CSF neurodegenerative screen consists of CSF S100 beta, CSF Total Tau, CSF A-Beta 1-42 and CSF phosphorylated Tau and are used as a diagnostic aid for the investigation of possible Alzheimer's disease in non-typical patients. They reflect the presence of neurofibrillary tangles and neurodegeneration.
Part of Profile / See Also	
Request Form	Combined Pathology manual request form or ICE request
Availability / Frequency of Analysis	Referred test: Analysed by Neuroimmunology and CSF laboratory, National Hospital (8045), if specific criteria met.
Turnaround Time	1 month
Patient Preparation	
Sample Requirement	
Specimen Type	CSF must be collected into a polypropylene Universal tube and sent to Pathology immediately. Correct tubes can be collected from the Pathology Laboratory.
Volume	Minimum CSF volume is 800ul (the referral lab require 3 separate aliquots of 250ul)
Container	 <p>30 ml polypropylene universal tube</p>
Reference Range & Units	Provided by the referral laboratory along with an interpretative comment.
Interferences	Haemolysed samples are not suitable for analysis, Amyloid beta 1-42 may be artificially low if the samples are not processed correctly.
Interpretation & Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)	Elevation of total-tau is seen in several neurodegenerative conditions (including Alzheimer's disease) but also in stroke and encephalitides. Very high total tau levels are seen in diseases with rapid ongoing neuronal degeneration/destruction. Reduction in CSF A β 1-42 is associated with deposition of β -amyloid in the brain, but has also been reported in neuroinflammatory conditions. Ratio of total tau:A β 1-42 aids interpretation of results.
References	https://www.uclh.nhs.uk/OurServices/ServiceA-Z/Neuro/NEURI/Documents/Neuroimmunology%20and%20CSF%20Laboratory%20User%20Handbook.pdf
Test code	CNDS
Lab Handling	Centrifuge polypropylene tubes and aliquot supernatant into 3 polypropylene aliquot tubes immediately after collection. Store at -80C until despatch. Sent frozen on dry ice

(dry ice can generally be obtained from the transfusion department) by courier to the National Hospital, London.



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