

Skeletal Antibodies

Synonyms

Clinical Indication

Striated muscle antibodies

- Myasthenia gravis
- Thymoma
- Polymyositis (rare)

Please note: This antibody is found in 25-40% of all patients with Myasthenia gravis, almost all (80-100%) have myasthenia with thymoma.

It is essential to give relevant clinical information.

Part of Profile / See Also

Request Form

Cardiac muscle antibodies

Combined Pathology manual blood request form or ICE request

Availability / Frequency of Analysis

Referred test: Analysis performed by Protein Reference Unit, Sheffield [8494](#)

Turnaround Time

21 days

Patient Preparation

No special preparation is required.

Sample Requirements

Please note a separate sample is required when Immunology tests are requested in addition to Biochemistry tests

Specimen Type

Serum

Volume

7 ml

Container



Yellow top (SST) tube.



Paediatric yellow top (SST) tube.

Reference Range & Units

Results are reported as Positive or Negative.

Interferences

None known

Interpretation & Clinical

Decision Value (if applicable)

A normal result is negative

Anti-skeletal muscle antibodies are found in 25-40% of Myasthenia Gravis patients, but primarily those with thymoma.

Presence of these antibodies (positive result) predicts the risk of Myasthenia in patients with thymoma and may predict an recurrence of thymoma after thymectomy.

Absence of these antibodies is strong evidence against thymoma, except in a small group of young myasthenics, usually male.

Presence of these autoantibodies predicts the risk of myasthenia in patients with thymoma and reoccurrence of thymoma after surgery.

The striational pattern indicative of these antibodies can be seen on both cardiac and skeletal muscle but may be more prominent on the skeletal muscle. There are a range of target antigens, including the muscle proteins titin and ryanodine receptor.

References

<https://sheffieldlaboratorymedicine.nhs.uk/search-test.php?search=3301&testname=Skeletal%20Muscle%20Antibodies>

Test code

SKEL

Lab Handling

Aliquot and store at 4-8°C prior to testing and at -20°C or below for up to 1 month after receipt.



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