

Diabetes antibody panel

Synonyms

Clinical Indication

NOT required for routine diagnosis of type I diabetes.

Type 1 diabetes is suspected but the clinical presentation includes some atypical features (for example, age 50 years or above, BMI of 25 kg/m² or above, slow evolution of hyperglycaemia or long prodrome).

Type 1 diabetes has been diagnosed and treatment started but there is a clinical suspicion that the person may have a monogenic form of diabetes, and C-peptide and/or autoantibody testing may guide the use of genetic testing.

If classification of the type of diabetes is uncertain.

This panel consists of antibodies to GAD, IA2 and ZnT8

Part of Profile / See Also

Request Form

Combined Pathology manual blood request form or ICE request

Availability / Frequency of Analysis

Referred test: Analysed by Immunology, Exeter Clinical Laboratory International [8210](#)

Turnaround Time

3 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

7 ml

Container



Yellow top (SST) tube.



Paediatric Yellow top (SST) tube

Reference Range & Units

GAD antibody: Positive: ≥ 11 U/mL:

IA2 antibody: Positive: ≥ 7.5 U/mL

ZnT8: age ≥ 30 years Positive: ≥ 10 U/mL

ZnT8: age <30 years Positive: ≥ 65 U/ml

Interferences

None stated

Interpretation & Clinical

Risk marker for type I diabetes.

Decision Value (if applicable)

Autoantibodies recognising these three pancreatic islet cell antigens (GAD, IA2, ZnT8) are present in up to 90% of newly diagnosed patients with Type 1 diabetes.

Negative results do not exclude the diagnosis of or future risk for type 1 diabetes mellitus.

References

<https://www.exeterlaboratory.com/test/zinc-transporter-8-znt8-islet-autoantibodies/>

<https://www.exeterlaboratory.com/ia-2-ia2-antibodies/>

<https://www.exeterlaboratory.com/test/gad-antibodies/>

NICE guideline [NG17] 2021 Type 1 diabetes in adults: diagnosis and management

NICE guideline [NG18] 2021 Diabetes (type 1 and type 2) in children and young people: diagnosis and management

Test code

DIAB

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.

