



Capital Health

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Anatomic Pathology and Virology, Immunology and Molecular Microbiology
DATE: March 28, 2012
RE: Frequency of immunopathology testing

As part of our ongoing commitment to efficient resource utilization we have reviewed the frequency with which markers for vasculitis, rheumatologic disorders and other Immunopathology should be tested. The guidelines outlined below were developed with the input from our rheumatology, gastroenterology and surgical colleagues. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the laboratory.

These utilization rules will begin on May 1, 2012

Vasculitis Panel

Anti-GBM	Once Monthly
Anti-MPO	Once Monthly
Anti-Proteinase	Once Monthly

ANA Panel

Once every 2 weeks

(Including: Anti-dsDNA, Anti-Chromatin, Anti-Ribosomal-P, Anti-SS-A/Ro, Anti-SS-B/La, Anti-Centromere B, Anti-Sm, Anti-Sm/RNP, Anti-RNP, Anti-Scl-70, Anti-Jo-1)

Other Immunopathology Tests

Anti-Cardioliipin	Once Monthly
Anti-CCP *	Once every 3 months
Anti-AMA-M2	Once every 6 months
Anti-Smooth Muscle Antibody	Once every 6 months
Anti-LKM1 Antibody	Once every 6 months
Anti-TTG	Once every 6 months

* CCP can only be ordered by Rheumatologists.

Sincerely,

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Interpretation and Utilization Guidance of Immunopathology Tests

ANA Panel			
Antibody	Antigen	Disease Association	Maximum frequency
ANA	Note: the ANA is positive if any of the specificities below are positive (it is not a separate test)		Once every 2 weeks
Anti-dsDNA	Double-stranded DNA	Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). Highly specific but low sensitivity. Elevated levels may be associated with renal involvement and active lupus.	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-Chromatin	dsDNA with its associated histone and non-histone proteins	Seen most commonly in SLE	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-Ribosomal-P	Phosphoproteins (P proteins) located on the 60S subunit of ribosomes	Highly specific for SLE. Associated with neuropsychiatric manifestations of lupus (weakly predictive)	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-SS-A/Ro	60 kDa cytoplasmic ribonucleoprotein	Found in Sjogren's Syndrome and in SLE. Associated with sicca syndrome, photosensitive rash neonatal lupus and congenital heart block in neonates.	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-SS-B/La	47 kDa cytoplasmic ribonucleoprotein	Found in Sjogren's Syndrome and in SLE. Associated with sicca syndrome, photosensitive rash neonatal lupus and congenital heart block in neonates.	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-Centromere B	Centromere B	Highly specific and sensitive for Limited Scleroderma (CREST).	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-Sm	Small nuclear ribonucleoproteins	Highly specific but low sensitivity for SLE	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-Sm/RNP	Small nuclear ribonucleoproteins (U1 snRNP, which includes proteins reactive to anti-Sm and anti-RNP	Positive when either anti-Sm or anti-RNP antibodies are present.	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-RNP	Small nuclear ribonucleoproteins	When associated with anti-Sm antibodies it is associated with SLE. When present by itself it is associated with Mixed Connective Tissue Disease (MCTD)	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-Scl-70	Topoisomerase I	Highly specific but low sensitivity for Diffuse Scleroderma.	Once every 2 weeks
Anti-Jo-1	Histidyl tRNA synthetase	Highly specific but low sensitivity for Polymyositis	Once every 2 weeks



Miscellaneous Immunopathology Tests			
Antibody	Antigen	Disease Association	Maximum frequency
Anti-Cardiolipin	Cardiolipin (a phospholipid)	Found in 30-40% of patients with SLE, or by itself. May be associated with unexplained venous or arterial thrombosis or recurrent fetal loss	Once Monthly
Anti-CCP	Cyclic citrullinated peptides	Sensitivity similar to rheumatoid factor for diagnosis of Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA). Specificity for RA slightly higher than rheumatoid factor. Available only to rheumatologists.	Once every 3 months
Anti-AMA-M2	Mitochondrial proteins	Associated with Primary Biliary Cirrhosis	Once every 6 months
Anti-Smooth Muscle Antibody	Actin, troponin or tropomyosin in smooth muscle	Associated with Autoimmune Liver Disease	Once every 6 months
Anti-LKM1 Antibody	Cytochrome P-450IID6	Associated with Autoimmune Liver Disease	Once every 6 months
Anti-TTG	Tissue transglutaminase	Associated with Celiac Disease. It is an IgA based test, therefore obtain immunoglobulin levels to ensure patient is not IgA deficient which might lead to false negative test result.	Once every 6 months