MAYO CLINIC LABORATORIES

Postmortem Screening Algorithm for Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders and Organic Acidurias

Sudden and unexpected death—autopsy performed

Risk factors
- Family history of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) or sudden unexplained deaths at any age
- Family history of Reye syndrome
- Maternal complications of pregnancy (acute fatty liver of pregnancy, HELLP syndrome [hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes, and low platelet count])
- Lethargy, vomiting, or fasting in the 48 hours prior to death
- Allegation of child abuse (excluding obvious cases of trauma, physical harm)
- Macroscopic autopsy finding
  - Fatty infiltration of the liver or other organs
  - Dilated or hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
  - Autopsy evidence of infection that routinely would NOT represent a life-threatening event

Risk factors present

Contact Biochemical Genetics Laboratory 800-533-1710

- Order PMSBB / Postmortem Screening, Bile and Blood Spots
- Collect appropriate specimens

Specimens sent to Mayo Clinic Laboratories
- Blood and bile spots on filter paper card
- Urine on filter paper card
- Skin biopsy
- Request for Original Newborn Screening Card be sent to Mayo Clinic Laboratories from screening laboratory, when possible

Send or fax clinical information and autopsy report to 507-284-1759, ATTN: Biochemical Genetics Laboratory

NEGATIVE

Consider postmortem molecular genetic testing to evaluate for cardiomyopathies, arrhythmias and other potential hereditary causes of death, as appropriate

POSITIVE

- Report provided
- Refer family for review of test results and genetic consultation

DNA confirmatory testing and biochemical genetic testing of asymptomatic parents and siblings, if appropriate

No risk factors present

- Order PMSBB / Postmortem Screening, Bile and Blood Spots
- Collect appropriate specimens

Specimens collected and sent to Mayo Clinic Laboratories
- Blood and bile spots on filter paper card
- Request for Original Newborn Screening Card be sent to Mayo Clinic Laboratories from screening laboratory, when possible

Specimen collected and held at client site
- Urine on filter paper card; Store at ambient temperature

Send or fax clinical information and autopsy report to 507-284-1759, ATTN: Biochemical Genetics Laboratory

NEGATIVE

Consider postmortem molecular genetic testing to evaluate for cardiomyopathies, arrhythmias and other potential hereditary causes of death, as appropriate

POSITIVE

- Report provided
- Consultation with Biochemical Genetics Laboratory regarding additional information
- Send urine specimen to Mayo Clinic Laboratories for analysis upon request

- Revised report issued that includes urine test results
- Refer family for review of test results and genetic consultation

DNA confirmatory testing and biochemical genetic testing of asymptomatic parents and siblings, if appropriate

Clickable PDF
Click on blue tests to view test catalog information

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