Overview

Useful For
Second-tier test when newborn screening results with reduced beta-glucosidase (GBA) activity are identified

Diagnosis and monitoring of patients with Gaucher disease

Documentation of an elevated glucopsychosine (glucosylsphingosine: lyso-GL1) level supports the biochemical diagnosis of Gaucher disease

Monitoring a patient's response to treatment

This test is not useful for identifying carriers of GBA variants

Genetics Test Information
Gaucher disease is an autosomal recessive lysosomal storage disorder caused by deficient beta-glucosidase activity.

There are 3 described types of Gaucher disease with varying clinical presentations and age of onset from a perinatal lethal disorder to an asymptomatic type.

Glucopsychosine (glucosylsphingosine: lyso-GL1) is elevated in symptomatic patients and supports a diagnosis of Gaucher disease.

Testing Algorithm
See Newborn Screen Follow-up for Gaucher Disease in Special Instructions.

For more information, see Newborn Screening Act Sheet Gaucher Disease: Decreased Acid Beta-Glucosidase in Special Instructions.

Special Instructions
- Biochemical Genetics Patient Information
- Blood Spot Collection Card-Spanish Instructions
- Newborn Screening Act Sheet Gaucher Disease: Decreased Acid Beta-Glucosidase
- Newborn Screen Follow-up for Gaucher Disease
- Blood Spot Collection Card-Chinese Instructions
- Blood Spot Collection Instructions

Method Name
Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)

NY State Available
Yes

Specimen
Specimen Type
Whole blood
Specimen Required

Supplies:

- Card-Blood Spot Collection (Filter Paper) (T493)
- Card-Postmortem Screening (Filter Paper) (T525)
- Blood Spot Collection Card-Spanish Instructions (T777)
- Blood Spot Collection Card-Chinese Instructions (T800)

Collection Container/Tube:

Preferred: Blood Spot Collection (Filter Paper)

Acceptable: Whatman Protein Saver 903 filter paper, Ahlstrom 226 filter paper, Munktell filter paper, Postmortem Screening (Filter Paper), or blood collected in tubes containing heparin or EDTA and then spotted and dried on filter paper

Specimen Volume: 2 blood spots

Collection Instructions:

1. Let blood dry on filter paper at ambient temperature in a horizontal position for 3 or more hours.
2. At least 1 spot should be complete, (ie, unpunched)
3. Do not expose specimen to heat or direct sunlight.
4. Do not stack wet specimens.
5. Keep specimen dry.
6. Dried blood spots collected with EDTA, sodium heparin, lithium heparin, or ACD B-containing devices are acceptable.

Additional Information:

1. For collection instructions, see Blood Spot Collection Instructions in Special Instructions.
2. For collection instructions in Spanish, see Blood Spot Collection Card-Spanish Instructions (T777) in Special Instructions.
3. For collection instructions in Chinese, see Blood Spot Collection Card-Chinese Instructions (T800) in Special Instructions.

Forms

1. Biochemical Genetics Patient Information (T602) in Special Instructions.
2. If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send an Inborn Errors of Metabolism Test Request (T798) form with the specimen.
Test Definition: GPSY
Glucopsychosine, BS

Specimen Minimum Volume
Blood spot: 1

Reject Due To
| Blood spot | Shows serum rings | Insufficient specimen | Nonapproved filter paper |

Specimen Stability Information

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Special Container</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whole blood</td>
<td>Refrigerated (preferred)</td>
<td>10 days</td>
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<td>Frozen</td>
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Clinical and Interpretive

Clinical Information
Gaucher disease is an autosomal recessive lysosomal storage disorder caused by a deficiency of the enzyme, beta-glucosidase. Beta-glucosidase facilitates the lysosomal degradation of glucosylceramide (glucocerebroside) and glucopsychosine (glucosylsphingosine: lyso-GL1). Gaucher disease is caused by variants in the \textit{GBA} gene. There are 3 described types of Gaucher disease with varying clinical presentations and age of onset from a perinatal lethal disorder to an asymptomatic type. Features of all types of Gaucher disease include hepatosplenomegaly and hematological abnormalities.

Gaucher disease type I is the most common form, representing more than 90% of cases. It is generally characterized by bone disease, hepatosplenomegaly, anemia and thrombocytopenia, coagulation abnormalities, lung disease, but no central nervous system (CNS) involvement. Gaucher disease types II and III are characterized by the presence of primary neurologic disease. In addition, Type II typically presents with limited psychomotor development, hepatosplenomegaly, and lung disease, resulting in death usually between 2 and 4 years of age. Individuals with Gaucher disease type III may present prior to 2 years of age, but the progression is not as rapid and patients may survive into the third and fourth decade. Further subtypes of Gaucher disease include a perinatal lethal form associated with skin abnormalities and nonimmune hydrops fetalis, and a cardiovascular form presenting with calcification of the aortic and mitral valves, mild splenomegaly, corneal opacities, and gaze impairment.

Treatment is available in the form of enzyme replacement therapy or substrate reduction therapy for types I and III. These treatment options have generally made bone marrow transplantation obsolete. Currently, only supportive therapy is available for type II because of the inability of enzyme provided by replacement therapy to cross the blood-brain barrier.

The incidence of Gaucher disease type I ranges from 1 in 30,000 to 1 in 100,000 in the general population, but is much more frequent among Ashkenazi Jews with an incidence of approximately 1 in 900. Types II and III both have an incidence of approximately 1 in 100,000 in the general population.

A diagnostic workup for Gaucher disease may demonstrate the characteristic finding of Gaucher cells on bone marrow examination, other hematologic abnormalities, and hepatosplenomegaly. The diagnosis can be confirmed by the demonstration of reduced or absent acid beta-glucosidase activity in leukocytes (BGL / Beta-Glucosidase,
Leukocytes) or dried blood spots (PLSD / Lysosomal and Peroxisomal Storage Disorders Screen, Blood Spot) and molecular genetic analysis of the **GBA** gene (GAUP / Gaucher Disease, Mutation Analysis, GBA, Varies; or GBAZ / Gaucher Disease, Full Gene Analysis, Varies). Lyso GL-1 is elevated in symptomatic patients and supports a diagnosis of Gaucher disease. It may also be helpful in determining treatment response.

**Reference Values**

Cutoff: < or =0.040 nmol/mL

**Interpretation**

An elevation of glucopsychosine (glucosylsphingosine: lyso-GL1) is indicative of Gaucher disease.

**Cautions**

No significant cautionary statements

**Clinical Reference**


**Performance**

**Method Description**

A 3-mm dried blood spot (DBS) is extracted with internal standard. The extract is subjected to liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) analysis. The MS/MS is operated in the multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) positive mode to follow the precursor to product species transitions for each analyte and internal standard. The ratio of the extracted peak areas to internal standard is determined by LC-MS/MS is used to calculate the concentration of in the sample.(Unpublished Mayo method)

**PDF Report**

No

**Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed**

Tuesday; 8 a.m.

**Analytic Time**
**Test Definition: GPSY**

Glucopsychosine, BS

2 days

**Maximum Laboratory Time**

8 days

**Specimen Retention Time**

Normal results: 1 year, Abnormal results: Indefinitely

**Performing Laboratory Location**

Rochester

### Fees and Codes

**Fees**

- Authorized users can sign in to [Test Prices](#) for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact [Customer Service](#) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their Regional Manager. For assistance, contact [Customer Service](#).

**Test Classification**

This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. This test has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

**CPT Code Information**

82542

**LOINC® Information**

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