Overview

Useful For
Evaluating patients with signs and symptoms of a connective tissue disease in whom the test for antinuclear antibodies is positive, especially those with signs and symptoms consistent with Sjogren syndrome or lupus erythematosus.

Testing for SS-A/Ro and SS-B/La antibodies is **not useful** in patients without demonstrable antinuclear antibodies.

Profile Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test ID</th>
<th>Reporting Name</th>
<th>Available Separately</th>
<th>Always Performed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSA</td>
<td>SS-A/Ro Ab, IgG, S</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSB</td>
<td>SS-B/La Ab, IgG, S</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Testing Algorithm

See [Connective Tissue Disease Cascade (CTDC)](#) in Special Instructions.

Special Instructions

- [Connective Tissue Disease Cascade (CTDC)](#)

Method Name

Multiplex Flow Immunoassay

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Serum

Specimen Required

Container/Tube:

- **Preferred:** Serum gel
- **Acceptable:** Red top

Specimen Volume: 0.5 mL

Specimen Minimum Volume

0.35 mL

Reject Due To

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gross hemolysis</th>
<th>Reject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Document generated June 5, 2020 at 11:58am CDT
SS-A/SSB

Gross lipemia  Reject
Gross icterus  OK

Specimen Stability Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Special Container</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serum</td>
<td>Refrigerated (preferred)</td>
<td>21 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>21 days</td>
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</table>

Clinical and Interpretive

Clinical Information

SS-A/Ro, SS-B/La, RNP, and Sm are autoantigens commonly referred to as extractable nuclear antigens (ENA). Antibodies to ENA are common in patients with connective tissue diseases (systemic rheumatic diseases).

SS-A/Ro is composed of protein antigens of 52 kD and 60 kD combined with cytoplasmic RNA species. SS-A/Ro antibodies occur in patients with several different connective tissue diseases including Sjogren syndrome, an autoimmune disease that involves primarily the salivary and lachrymal glands (up to 90% of cases); lupus erythematosus (LE) (40%-60% of cases); and rheumatoid arthritis. SS-A/Ro antibodies are associated with childhood LE, neonatal LE, and with congenital heart block in infants born to mothers with LE.(1,2) SS-A/Ro antibodies have also been reported to be associated with features of extraglandular inflammation in patients with LE including vasculitis, purpura, cytopenias, and adenopathy.

SS-B/La is composed of a 48-kD protein combined with RNA species. SS-B/La antibodies are found primarily in patients with Sjogren syndrome or LE, where they occur with frequencies of approximately 60% and 15%, respectively.(1,2) SS-B/La antibodies occur only infrequently in the absence of SS-A/Ro antibodies.

See Connective Tissue Disease Cascade (CTDC) in Special Instructions.

Reference Values

SS-A/Ro ANTIBODIES, IgG

<1.0 U (negative)

> or =1.0 U (positive)

Reference values apply to all ages.

SS-B/La ANTIBODIES, IgG

<1.0 U (negative)

> or =1.0 (positive)

Reference values apply to all ages.

Interpretation
A positive result for SS-A/Ro or SS-B/La antibodies is consistent with connective tissue disease, including Sjogren's syndrome, lupus erythematosus (LE), or rheumatoid arthritis.

A positive result for SS-A/Ro antibodies in a woman with LE prior to delivery indicates an increased risk of congenital heart block in the neonate.

**Cautions**

No significant cautionary statements

**Clinical Reference**


**Performance**

**Method Description**

Recombinant SS-A/Ro 52 kD, affinity-purified SS-A/Ro 60 kD, and affinity-purified SS-B antigen are coupled covalently to polystyrene microspheres that are impregnated with fluorescent dyes to create a unique fluorescent signature. SS-A/Ro antibodies, if present in diluted serum, bind to the SS-A/Ro antigens on the microspheres, and SS-B/La antibodies, if present, bind to the SS-B antigen on the microspheres. The microspheres are washed to remove extraneous serum proteins. Phycoerythrin (PE)-conjugated antihuman IgG antibody is then added to detect IgG anti-SS-A/Ro or anti-SS-B/La bound to the microspheres. The microspheres are washed to remove unbound conjugate, and bound conjugate is detected by laser photometry. A primary laser reveals the fluorescent signature of each microsphere to distinguish it from microspheres that are labeled with other antigens, and a secondary laser reveals the level of PE fluorescence associated with each microsphere. Results are calculated by comparing the median fluorescence response for SS-A/Ro and SS-B/La microspheres to a 4-point calibration curve. (Package insert: Bioplex 2200 ANA Screen. Bio-Rad Laboratories, Hercules, CA 11/2011)

**PDF Report**

No

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

Monday through Saturday; 4 p.m.

**Analytic Time**

Same day/1 day

**Maximum Laboratory Time**

3 days

**Specimen Retention Time**

14 days

**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 has been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

CPT Code Information

86235 x 2

LOINC® Information

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<th>Test Order Name</th>
<th>Order LOINC Value</th>
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<td>SSA/SSB</td>
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<table>
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<td>SS-A/Ro Ab, IgG, S</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSB</td>
<td>SS-B/La Ab, IgG, S</td>
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