

Overview

Useful For

Evaluation of neuroautoimmunity, particularly small-cell lung carcinoma and thymoma, in conjunction with other antineuronal antibodies

Reporting an end titer result from cerebrospinal fluid specimens

Testing Algorithm

If the indirect immunofluorescence (IFA) pattern suggests collapsin response-mediator protein-5 (CRMP-5) neuronal IgG, then this test will be performed at an additional charge.

Method Name

Only orderable as a reflex. For more information see:

- DMC2 / Dementia, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid
- ENC2 / Encephalopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid
- EPC2 / Epilepsy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid
- MDC2 / Movement Disorder, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid
- MAC1 / Myelopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid

Indirect Immunofluorescence Assay (IFA)

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

CSF

Ordering Guidance

Serum is preferred. Spinal fluid testing is particularly useful if interfering antibodies are present in the serum.

Specimen Required

Only orderable as a reflex. For more information see:

- DMC2 / Dementia, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid
- ENC2 / Encephalopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid
- EPC2 / Epilepsy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid
- MDC2 / Movement Disorder, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid
- MAC1 / Myelopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid

Container/Tube: Sterile vial

Specimen Volume: 4 mL

Specimen Minimum Volume

2 mL

Reject Due To

Gross hemolysis	Reject
Gross lipemia	Reject
Gross icterus	Reject

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
CSF	Refrigerated (preferred)	28 days	
	Ambient	72 hours	
	Frozen	28 days	

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Autoantibodies specific for neurons, glia, and muscle are important serological markers of neurological autoimmunity. Most are highly predictive of specific neoplasms that are metastatic to regional lymph nodes when diagnosed but usually limited in spread.(1,2) The target auto-antigens identified so far include cytoplasmic and nuclear proteins and plasma membrane cation channels.(3)

Collapsin response-mediator protein-5 (CRMP-5)-IgG is currently the second most common autoantibody predictive of small-cell lung carcinoma and, sometimes, occurs with thymoma.

The neurological presentation of CRMP-5-IgG seropositive patients is usually multifocal and can affect any level of the neuraxis. The presentation frequently mimics a stroke or multiple sclerosis. Syndromic manifestations encountered with lung carcinoma include subacute chorea, blindness, other cranial neuropathies (particularly loss of taste or smell), gastrointestinal dysmotility, myelopathy, and radiculoplexopathy. Fourteen percent of patients have thromboembolic phenomena. Seropositive patients who have thymoma (6%) usually present with neurological manifestations other than, or including, myasthenia gravis (eg, encephalopathy, disorders of continuous muscle fiber activity).

Reference Values

Only orderable as a reflex. For more information see:

-DMC2 / Dementia, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid

-ENC2 / Encephalopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid

-EPC2 / Epilepsy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid  
-MDC2 / Movement Disorder, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid  
-MAC1 / Myelopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Spinal Fluid

<1:2

**Note:** Titers lower than 1:2 are detectable by recombinant collapsin response-mediator protein-5 (CRMP-5) Western blot analysis. CRMP-5 Western blot analysis will be done on request on stored spinal fluid (held 4 weeks). This supplemental testing is recommended in cases of chorea, vision loss, cranial neuropathy, and myelopathy. Call the Neuroimmunology Laboratory at 800-533-1710 to request CRMP-5 Western blot.

Neuron-restricted patterns of IgG staining that do not fulfill criteria for CRMP-5-IgG may be reported as "unclassified anti-neuronal IgG." Complex patterns that include nonneuronal elements may be reported as "uninterpretable."

### Interpretation

Detection of IgG autoantibody specific for the neuronal cytoplasmic antigen collapsin response-mediator protein-5 (CRMP-5) in a patient's serum or spinal fluid confirms that the patient's subacute neurological disorder has an autoimmune basis and predicts a small-cell lung carcinoma or thymoma with 75% to 80% certainty.(1)

CRMP-5-IgG titers generally fall after the neoplasm is treated, and a rising titer is indicative of tumor persistence or recurrence.

### Cautions

Seronegativity does not exclude the presence of a neoplasm.

Testing for a single paraneoplastic autoantibody is not a sufficient screening test for neuroautoimmunity.

Collapsin response-mediator protein-5 (CRMP-5)-IgG is not detectable by immunofluorescence screening if the spinal fluid titer is low (<1:2) or if coexisting autoantibodies (either neuron-specific or nonorgan-specific such as antinuclear and antimitochondrial antibodies) are present, which precludes identification of CRMP-5-IgG with certainty. Interfering antibodies can usually be eliminated by absorption with liver antigens. Western blot analysis using full-length recombinant human CRMP-5 protein can detect CRMP-5-IgG at 1:10 dilution.

An autoantibody independently named anti-CV2 is the same entity as CRMP-5-IgG. Its antigen in adult brain was erroneously reported to be oligodendrocyte-restricted and was misidentified in 1999 as CRMP-3.

### Clinical Reference

1. Yu Z, Kryzer TJ, Griesmann GE, et al: CRMP-5 neuronal autoantibody: marker of lung cancer and thymoma-related autoimmunity. *Ann Neurol*. 2001 Feb;49(2):146-154
2. Galanis E, Frytak S, Rowland KM, et al: Neuronal autoantibody titers in the course of small-cell lung carcinoma and platinum associated neuropathy. *Cancer Immunol Immunother*. 1999 May-June;48(2-3):85-90
3. Lennon VA: Calcium channel and related paraneoplastic disease autoantibodies. In: Peter JB, Schoenfeld Y, eds. *Textbook of Autoantibodies*. Elsevier Science Publishers, BV, The Netherlands, 1996;139-147
4. Vernino S, Tuite P, Adler CH, et al: Paraneoplastic chorea associated with CRMP-5 neuronal antibody and lung carcinoma. *Ann Neuro*. 2002 May;51(5):625-630
5. Pittock SJ, Kryzer TJ, Lennon VA: Paraneoplastic antibodies coexist and predict cancer, not neurological syndrome. *Ann*

Neurol. 2004 Nov;56(5):715-719

6. Horta ES, Lennon VA, Lachance DH, et al: Neural autoantibody clusters aid diagnosis of cancer. Clin Cancer Res. 2014 Jul 15;20(14):3862-3869

Performance

Method Description

The patient's specimen is tested by a standardized immunofluorescence assay that uses a composite frozen section of mouse cerebellum, kidney, and gut tissues. After incubation with the specimen and washing, fluorescein-conjugated goat-antihuman IgG is applied. Neuron-specific autoantibodies are identified by their characteristic fluorescence staining patterns. Specimens that are scored positive for any neuronal nuclear or cytoplasmic autoantibody are titrated. Interference by coexisting non-neuron-specific autoantibodies can usually be eliminated by serologic absorption.(Honorat JA, Komorowski L, Josephs KA, et al. IgLON5 antibody: Neurological accompaniments and outcomes in 20 patients. Neurol Neuroimmunol Neuroinflamm. 2017;4[5]:e385. Published 2017 Jul 18. doi:10.1212/NXI.0000000000000385)

Western blot analysis with recombinant CRMP-5 (done by specific request) may be required to confirm positive results if interfering autoantibodies are present or when the titer is below 1:2.

PDF Report

No

Day(s) Performed

Monday through Sunday

Report Available

5 to 8 days

Specimen Retention Time

28 days

Performing Laboratory Location

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus

Fees & 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 account representative. 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. It has not been cleared or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

86256

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
CRMTC	CRMP-5-IgG Titer, CSF	94706-9

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
43445	CRMP-5-IgG Titer, CSF	94706-9