

## Overview

**Method Name**

Ex Vivo Challenge, Cell Culture and Histamine Analysis

**NY State Available**

Yes

## Specimen

**Specimen Type**

Serum

**Specimen Required**

**Patient Preparation:** Patients taking calcineurin inhibitors should stop medication 72 hours prior to draw. Patients taking prednisone should be off their medication for 2 weeks prior to draw.

**Specimen Type:** Serum

**Collection Container/Tube:** Red or SST

**Submission Container/Tube:** Plastic vial

**Specimen Volume:** 2 mL

**Collection Instructions:**

1. Draw 5 mL blood in a serum separator tube (SST) (plain, red-top tube is acceptable).
2. Separate from cells within 2 hours of draw. Send 2 mL of serum ambient in a plastic vial.

**Specimen Minimum Volume**

0.5 mL

**Reject Due To**

Hemolysis:	NA
Thawing:	Warm OK; Cold OK
Lipemia:	NA
Icterus:	NA
Other:	NA

**Specimen Stability Information**

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum	Ambient (preferred)	14 days	
	Refrigerated	14 days	
	Frozen	14 days	

## Clinical & Interpretive

### Clinical Information

Patients with a chronic form of urticaria who are positive (>10) with the CU index have an autoimmune basis for their disease. A positive result does not indicate which autoantibody (anti-IgE, anti-FceRI or anti-FCERII) is present.

### Reference Values

< 10.0

The CU Index test is the second generation Functional Anti-FceR test. Patient with a CU Index greater than or equal to 10 have basophil reactive factors in their serum which supports an autoimmune basis for disease.

## Performance

### Method Description

Ex-Vivo Challenge and cell culture: Donor blood cells are incubated with patient serum, a negative control and a positive control. Following the ex-vivo challenge, the cells are centrifuged and the supernatant is recovered for assay of histamine released. Histamine Analysis: Using a quantitative enzyme immunoassay, the histamine released into the supernatant is measured and compared to the total histamine in the basophils.

### PDF Report

No

### Day(s) Performed

Monday and Thursday

### Report Available

2 to 9 days

### Performing Laboratory Location

Eurofins Viracor

## 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 Viracor Eurofins. It has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

**CPT Code Information**

86343

**LOINC® Information**

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
FCUIX	CU Index	63369-3
Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
FCUIX	CU Index	63369-3