

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-FcεRI or anti-FCεRII) is present.

### Reference Values

< 10.0

The CU Index test is the second generation Functional Anti-FcεR 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