

Overview

Useful For

The distinction of reactive mesothelial proliferation from mesothelioma

Reflex Tests

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
IHTOI	IHC Initial, Tech Only	No	No
IHTOA	IHC Additional, Tech Only	No	No

Testing Algorithm

For the initial technical component only immunohistochemical (IHC) stain performed, the appropriate bill-only test ID will be reflexed and charged (IHTOI). For each additional technical component only IHC stain performed, an additional bill-only test ID will be reflexed and charged (IHTOA).

Method Name

Immunohistochemistry (IHC)

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

TECHONLY

Ordering Guidance

This test includes only technical performance of the stain (no pathologist interpretation is performed). If diagnostic consultation by a pathologist is required order PATHC / Pathology Consultation.

Shipping Instructions

Attach the green "Attention Pathology" address label (T498) and the pink Immunostain Technical Only label included in the kit to the outside of the transport container.

Specimen Required

Specimen Type: Tissue

Supplies: Immunostain Technical Only Envelope (T693)

Container/Tube: Immunostain Technical Only Envelope

Submit:

-Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue block  
OR  
-2 Unstained, positively charged glass slides (25- x 75- x 1-mm) per test ordered; sections 4-microns thick

Digital Image Access

1. Information on accessing digital images of immunohistochemical (IHC) stains and the manual requisition form can be accessed through this website: <https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/pathology/digital-imaging/>
2. Clients ordering stains using a manual requisition form will not have access to digital images.
3. Clients wishing to access digital images must place the order for IHC stains electronically. Information regarding digital imaging can be accessed through this website: <https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/pathology/digital-imaging/#section3>

Reject Due To

Wet/frozen tissue Cytology smears Nonformalin fixed tissue Nonparaffin embedded tissue Noncharged slides ProbeOn slides Snowcoat slides	Reject
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Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
TECHONLY	Ambient (preferred)		
	Refrigerated		

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

This assay is intended to identify the presence of Merlin (moesin, ezrin, and radixin-like protein) expression within the membrane or cytoplasm of tumor cells. Merlin is the *NF2* gene product displaying striking similarity to ezrin, radixin, and moesin proteins. It can be difficult to distinguish reactive mesothelial proliferation from mesothelioma. Loss of *NF2* expression is specific for malignant processes and based on studies has been shown to add sensitivity to existing mesothelioma immunohistochemistry markers.

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**Interpretation**

This test does not include pathologist interpretation, only technical performance of the stain. If interpretation is required, order PATHC / Pathology Consultation for a full diagnostic evaluation or second opinion of the case.

The positive and negative controls are verified as showing appropriate immunoreactivity. If a control tissue is not included on the slide, a scanned image of the relevant quality control tissue is available upon request; call 855-516-8404.

Interpretation of this test should be performed in the context of the patient's clinical history and other diagnostic tests by a qualified pathologist.

**Cautions**

Age of a cut paraffin section can affect immunoreactivity. Stability thresholds vary widely among published literature and are antigen dependent. Best practice is for paraffin sections to be cut within 6 weeks.

The charge of glass slides can be affected by environmental factors and subsequently may alter slide staining. Sending unsuitable glass slides can result in inconsistent staining due to poor slide surface chemistry.

Best practices for storage of positively charged slides:

- Minimize time slides are stored after being unpackaged
- Limit exposure to high humidity and heat

**Clinical Reference**

1. Offin M, Yang S, Egger J, et. al. Molecular characterization of peritoneal mesotheliomas. J Thorac Oncol.2022; 17(3): 455-460
2. Chapel DB, Hornick JL, Barlow J, et. al. Clinical and molecular validation of BAP1, MTAP, P53, and Merlin immunohistochemistry in diagnosis of pleural mesothelioma. Mod Pathol. 2022;35(10):1383-1397
3. Collins K, Hwang M, Antic T, et. al. Merlin immunohistochemistry is useful in diagnosis of tumours within the spectrum of biphasic hyalinizing psammomatous renal cell carcinoma. Histopathology 2022;81(5):577-586
4. Martin SD, Cheung S, and Churg A. Immunohistochemical demonstration of Merlin/NF2 loss in mesothelioma. Mod Pathol. 2023;36(1): 100036

**Performance****Method Description**

Immunohistochemistry on sections of paraffin-embedded tissue.(Unpublished Mayo method)

**PDF Report**

No

**Day(s) Performed**

Monday through Friday

**Report Available**

1 to 3 days

Specimen Retention Time

Until staining is completed

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 has been cleared, approved, or is exempt by the US 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

88342-TC, Primary  
88341-TC, If additional IHC

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
NF2	Merlin (NF2) IHC, Tech Only	No LOINC Needed

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
622011	Merlin (NF2) IHC, Tech Only	No LOINC Needed