

FILE DEFINITION TEST CHANGE

Notification Date: July 15, 2025 Effective Date: August 14, 2025

NOTCH3 Gene, Full Gene Analysis, Varies

Test ID: NTC3Z

Explanation: On the effective date, the Test Algorithm will be updated to include an additional reflex test when necessary. Additionally, the Additional Testing Requirements, Specimen Required, and Report Available sections will be updated as indicated below.

Current Testing Algorithm

For skin biopsy or cultured fibroblast specimens, fibroblast culture testing will be performed at an additional charge. If viable cells are not obtained, the client will be notified.

New Testing Algorithm

Skin biopsy:

For skin biopsy or cultured fibroblast specimens, fibroblast culture will be performed at an additional charge. If viable cells are not obtained, the client will be notified.

Cord blood:

For cord blood specimens that have an accompanying maternal blood specimen, maternal cell contamination studies will be performed at an additional charge.

Current Reflex Tests					
Test ID	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed		
CULFB	Fibroblast Culture for Genetic Test	Yes	No		

New Reflex Tests					
Test ID	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed		
CULFB	Fibroblast Culture for Genetic Test	Yes	No		
MATCC	Maternal Cell Contamination, B	Yes	No		

Current Additional Testing Requirements

None

New Additional Testing Requirements

For cord blood specimens: Maternal cell contamination (MCC) studies are available. Order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on both the cord blood and maternal specimens under separate order numbers. Cord blood testing will proceed without MCC studies, but results may be compromised if MCC is present.

Current Specimen Required

Patient Preparation: A previous bone marrow transplant from an allogenic donor will interfere with

New Specimen Required

Patient Preparation: A previous hematopoietic stem cell transplant from an allogenic donor will interfere with testing. For

testing. Call 800-533-1710 for instructions for testing patients who have received a bone marrow transplant.

Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

Specimen Type: Whole blood

Container/Tube:

Preferred: Lavender top (EDTA) or yellow top

(ACD)

Acceptable: Any anticoagulant Specimen Volume: 3 mL Collection Instructions:

1. Invert several times to mix blood.

2. Send whole blood specimen in original tube. **Do**

not aliquot.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient

(preferred)/Refrigerated

Specimen Type: Skin biopsy

Supplies: Fibroblast Biopsy Transport Media (T115) Container/Tube: Sterile container with any standard cell culture media (eg, minimal essential media, RPMI 1640). The solution should be supplemented with 1% penicillin and streptomycin.

Specimen Volume: 4-mm punch

Specimen Stability Information: Refrigerated

(preferred)/Ambient

Additional Information: A separate culture charge will be assessed under CULFB / Fibroblast Culture for Biochemical or Molecular Testing. An additional 3 to 4 weeks is required to culture fibroblasts before genetic testing can occur.

Specimen Type: Cultured fibroblast

Container/Tube: T-25 flask Specimen Volume: 2 Flasks

Collection Instructions: Submit confluent cultured fibroblast cells from a skin biopsy from another laboratory. Cultured cells from a prenatal specimen will not be accepted.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred)/Refrigerated (<24 hours)

Additional Information: A separate culture charge will be assessed under CULFB / Fibroblast Culture for Biochemical or Molecular Testing. An additional 3 to -4 weeks is required to culture fibroblasts before genetic testing can occur.

Specimen Type: Blood spot

Container/Tube:

Preferred: Collection card (Whatman Protein Saver

903 Paper)

Acceptable: PerkinElmer 226 (formerly Ahlstrom 226) filter paper or blood spot collection card

Specimen Volume: 5 Blood spots

Collection Instructions:

1. An alternative blood collection option for a patient older than 1 year is a fingerstick. For detailed

information about testing patients who have received a hematopoietic stem cell transplant, call 800-533-1710.

Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

Specimen Type: Whole blood

Container/Tube:

Preferred: Lavender top (EDTA) or yellow top (ACD)

Acceptable: Green top (Sodium heparin)

Specimen Volume: 3 mL Collection Instructions:

1. Invert several times to mix blood.

2. Send whole blood specimen in original tube. **Do not aliquot**.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred) 4

days/Refrigerated 4 days/Frozen 4 days

Additional Information:

- 1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 4 days of collection. Extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 4 days, and DNA yield will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
- 2. To ensure minimum volume and concentration of DNA are met, the requested volume must be submitted. Testing may be canceled if DNA requirements are inadequate.

Specimen Type: Cord blood

Container/Tube:

Preferred: Lavender top (EDTA) or yellow top (ACD)

Acceptable: Green top (Sodium heparin)

Specimen Volume: 3 mL Collection Instructions:

1. Invert several times to mix blood.

2. Send cord blood specimen in original tube. Do not aliquot. **Specimen Stability Information:** Ambient (preferred) 4

days/Refrigerated 4 days/Frozen 4 days

Additional Information:

- 1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 4 days of collection. Extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 4 days, and DNA yield will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
- 2. To ensure minimum volume and concentration of DNA are met, the requested volume must be submitted. Testing may be canceled if DNA requirements are inadequate.
- 3. While a properly collected cord blood sample may not be at risk for maternal cell contamination, unanticipated complications may occur during collection. Therefore, maternal cell contamination studies are recommended to ensure the test results reflect that of the patient tested and are available at an additional charge. Order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen.

Specimen Type: Saliva

Patient Preparation: Patient should not eat, drink, smoke, or

chew gum 30 minutes prior to collection. **Supplies**: Saliva Swab Collection Kit (T786)

Specimen Volume: 2 Swabs

Collection Instructions: Collect and send specimen per kit

instructions.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred) 30

days/Refrigerated 30 days

instructions, see <u>How to Collect Dried Blood Spot</u> Samples.

- 2. Let blood dry on the filter paper at ambient temperature in a horizontal position for a minimum of 3 hours.
- 3. Do not expose specimen to heat or direct sunlight.
- 4. Do not stack wet specimens.
- 5. Keep specimen dry

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred)/Refrigerated

Additional Information:

- 1. Due to lower concentration of DNA yielded from blood spot, it is possible that additional specimen may be required to complete testing.
- 2. For collection instructions, see <u>Blood Spot</u> <u>Collection Instructions</u>
- 3. For collection instructions in Spanish, see <u>Blood</u> <u>Spot Collection Card-Spanish Instructions</u> (T777)
- 4. For collection instructions in Chinese, see <u>Blood Spot Collection Card-Chinese Instructions</u> (T800)

Specimen Type: Saliva

Patient Preparation: Patient should not eat, drink, smoke, or chew gum 30 minutes prior to collection.

Supplies: Saliva Swab Collection Kit (T786)

Specimen Volume: 1 Swab

Collection Instructions: Collect and send

specimen per kit instructions.

Additional Information: Due to lower concentration of DNA yielded from saliva, it is possible that additional specimen may be required to complete testing.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient 30 days

Additional Information: Saliva specimens are acceptable but not recommended. Due to lower quantity/quality of DNA yielded from saliva, some aspects of the test may not perform as well as DNA extracted from a whole blood sample. When applicable, specific gene regions that were unable to be interrogated will be noted in the report. Alternatively, additional specimen may be required to complete testing.

Specimen Type: Blood spot

Supplies: Card-Blood Spot Collection (Filter Paper) (T493)

Container/Tube:

Preferred: Collection card (Whatman Protein Saver 903 Paper) **Acceptable**: PerkinElmer 226 filter paper or blood spot collection

Specimen Volume: 2 to 5 Blood spots

Collection Instructions:

- 1. An alternative blood collection option for a patient older than 1 year is a fingerstick. For detailed instructions, see How to Collect a Dried Blood Spot Sample.
- 2. Let blood dry on the filter paper at ambient temperature in a horizontal position for a minimum of 3 hours.
- 3. Do not expose specimen to heat or direct sunlight.
- 4. Do not stack wet specimens.
- 5. Keep specimen dry

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient

(preferred)/Refrigerated Additional Information:

- 1. Blood spot specimens are acceptable but not recommended. Multiple extractions will be required to obtain sufficient yield for supplemental analysis, and there is significant risk for test failure due to insufficient DNA.
- 2. Due to lower concentration of DNA yielded from blood spot, some aspects of the test may not perform as well as DNA extracted from a whole blood sample. When applicable, specific gene regions that were unable to be interrogated will be noted in the report. Alternatively, additional specimen may be required to complete testing.
- 3. For collection instructions, see <u>Blood Spot Collection</u> Instructions
- 4. For collection instructions in Spanish, see <u>Blood Spot</u> Collection Card-Spanish Instructions (T777)
- 5. For collection instructions in Chinese, see <u>Blood Spot</u> <u>Collection Card-Chinese Instructions</u> (T800)

Specimen Type: Cultured fibroblasts

Source: Skin

Container/Tube: T-25 flask Specimen Volume: 2 Flasks

Collection Instructions: Submit confluent cultured fibroblast cells from a skin biopsy. Cultured cells from a prenatal specimen will not be accepted.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred) <24 hours/Refrigerated <24 hours

Additional Information:

- 1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 24 hours of collection. Culture and extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 24 hours and will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
- 2. A separate culture charge will be assessed under CULFB / Fibroblast Culture for Biochemical or Molecular Testing. An

additional 3 to 4 weeks are required to culture fibroblasts before genetic testing can occur.

Specimen Type: Skin biopsy

Supplies: Fibroblast Biopsy Transport Media (T115)

Container/Tube: Sterile container with any standard cell culture media (eg, minimal essential media, RPMI 1640). The solution should be supplemented with 1% penicillin and streptomycin.

Specimen Volume: 4-mm Punch

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred) <24

hours/Refrigerated <24 hours

Additional Information:

- 1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 24 hours of collection. Culture and extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 24 hours and will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
- 2. A separate culture charge will be assessed under CULFB / Fibroblast Culture for Biochemical or Molecular Testing. An additional 3 to 4 weeks are required to culture fibroblasts before genetic testing can occur.

Specimen Type: Extracted DNA Container/Tube:

Preferred: Screw Cap Micro Tube, 2 mL with skirted conical

base

Acceptable: Matrix tube, 1 mL Collection Instructions:

- 1. The preferred volume is at least 100 mcL at a concentration of 75 ng/mcL.
- 2. Include concentration and volume on tube.

Specimen Stability Information: Frozen (preferred) 1

year/Ambient/Refrigerated

Additional Information: DNA must be extracted in a CLIA-certified laboratory or equivalent and must be extracted from a specimen type listed as acceptable for this test (including applicable anticoagulants). Our laboratory has experience with Chemagic, Puregene, Autopure, MagnaPure, and EZ1 extraction platforms and cannot guarantee that all extraction methods are compatible with this test. If testing fails, one repeat will be attempted, and if unsuccessful, the test will be reported as failed and a charge will be applied. If applicable, specific gene regions that were unable to be interrogated due to DNA quality will be noted in the report.

Current Report Available	
28 to 42 days	

New Report Available	
14 to 21 days	

Questions

Contact Michelle Raths, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.