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Acetylcholine Receptor Antibodies by Radioimmunoprecipitation

Test Name	Acetylcholine receptor antibodies by RIPA
Abbreviations	AChR Ab RIPA
CPT code	83519
Methodology	In-house radioimmunoprecipitation assay
Intended use	Diagnosis of myasthenia gravis (MG)
Test requirements	Specimen Type: Serum Minimum volume: 0.5 mL Preferred volume: 3 mL Rejection criteria: grossly hemolytic, icteric, or lipemic. If the sample arrives at room temperature.
Specimen collection	• No patient preparation required before collection. • 5 mL SST tube (gold-top) • Spin tubes, aliquot serum, and ship on cold-packs same day
Specimen stability	Up to 7 days at room temp (15 - 25°C) Up to 4 weeks refrigerated (2 - 8°C) Up to 2 freeze / thaws
Test schedule	Once a week (2 day procedure)
TAT	2 – 8 days
Reference range	Negative: 0.0 – 0.2 nmol/L Borderline: 0.2 – 2 nmol/L Positive: > 2 nmol/L
Limitations	• This test was developed and its performance determined by Neurocode USA Inc. It has not been cleared or approved by the Food and Drug Administration. • Please indicate if patients are on immunomodulating treatments as these may interfere with testing. • Causal antibodies cannot be identified in about 10% of MG cases. Therefore, a positive result is specific for the diagnosis of AChR ab myasthenia gravis (MG), but a negative result does not rule out an MG diagnosis.
References	• Vincent A, Davis JN. Anti-acetylcholine receptor antibodies. JNNP. 1980 Jul 1;43(7):590-600. • Oger J, Kaufman R, Berry K. Acetylcholine receptor antibodies in myasthenia gravis: use of a qualitative assay for diagnostic purposes. CJNS. 1987 Aug;14(3):297-302. • Oger J, Frykman H. An update on laboratory diagnosis in myasthenia gravis. Clinica Chimica Acta. 2015 Sep 20;449:43-8. • Frykman H, Kumar P, Oger J. Immunopathology of autoimmune myasthenia gravis: implications for improved testing algorithms and treatment strategies. Front neurol. 2020 Dec 9;11:596621.

	• Frykman H, Kumar P. Laboratory Testing of Myasthenia Gravis: New Treatments Drive Change. JALM. 2021 Jul 1;6(4):1087-9. • Frykman H, et al. Immunopathology of autoimmune myasthenia gravis: implications for improved testing algorithms and treatment strategies. Front Neurol. 2020 Dec 9;11:596621.