

Detection of Heparin Associated Antibodies



Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) is a recognized complication of heparin therapy. HIT is characterized by the formation of antibodies directed against the heparin-platelet factor-4 (PF4) complex. This results in a subsequent activation of the platelets and the generation of thrombin leading to a prothrombin state.

INDICATIONS

Immune-mediated HIT typically is manifested 5 to 10 days after the initiation of heparin therapy. HIT occurs in approximately 1 – 3% of cases receiving unfractionated heparin for a week or greater. Patients with Type II HIT are at an increased risk of developing severe thrombocytopenia as well as acute thrombosis.

BENEFITS

Identification of patients with Type II HIT can verify the presence of heparin associated antibodies. Once HIT has been diagnosed an immediate discontinuation of all heparin products along with the administration of direct thrombin inhibitors will prevent continued severe thrombocytopenia and further thrombotic complications.

METHOD

A solid phase enzyme linked immunosorbant assay (ELISA) is used to detect antibodies directed against the PF4 complex. Confirmation of the presence of heparin associated antibodies with the addition of heparin and subsequent inhibition of the PF4 antibody will verify its' presence. These tests are intended for in vitro diagnostic use.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

Specimens should be collected WITHOUT anticoagulant aseptically. Separate the serum from the red cells as soon as possible after collection. Samples that cannot be tested immediately should be stored at 2 to 8°C for no longer than 48 hours. If testing is delayed for longer than 48 hours store the serum frozen at -20°C or colder. Send frozen specimens on dry ice.

DAYS OF TESTING

Monday through Friday

RESULT REPORTING

Results will be available within 24 hours of testing.
Results can be faxed and/or mailed.

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SHIPPING ADDRESS

North Central Blood Services
Neutrophil Serology Laboratory
100 Robert Street South
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107-1489

**For further information
please call the Neutrophil
Serology Laboratory
at 651-291-6797 or the
laboratory supervisor
at 651-291-6758.**

CLIA License Number:
24D0651229

PRICE

Refer to current fee schedule

CPT CODE

| TEST | CPT CODE |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Heparin Antibody Screen..... | 86022 |
| Heparin Antibody Confirmation..... | 86022 |

