

Overview

Useful For

Determining a patient's immunological response to diphtheria toxoid vaccination

Aiding in the evaluation of immunodeficiency

Method Name

Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Serum

Specimen Required

**Supplies:** Sarstedt Aliquot Tube, 5 mL (T914)

**Collection Container/Tube:**

**Preferred:** Serum gel

**Acceptable:** Red top

**Submission Container/Tube:** Plastic vial

**Specimen Volume:** 0.5 mL

**Collection Instructions:** Centrifuge and aliquot serum into a plastic vial.

Forms

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send [Infectious Disease Serology Test Request](#) (T916) with the specimen.

Specimen Minimum Volume

0.4 mL

Reject Due To

Gross hemolysis	Reject
Gross lipemia	Reject
Gross icterus	Reject
Heat inactivated	Reject

specimen	
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Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum	Refrigerated (preferred)	30 days	
	Frozen	30 days	

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Diphtheria is an acute, contagious, febrile illness caused by the bacterium *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*. The disease is classically characterized by a combination of localized inflammation in the upper respiratory tract with the formation of a diphtheric pseudomembrane over the oropharynx, including the tonsils, pharynx, larynx, and posterior nasal passages. *C diphtheriae* produces a potent diphtheria exotoxin that is absorbed systemically and can lead to cardiac failure and paralysis of the diaphragm.

The disease is preventable by vaccination with diphtheria toxoid, which stimulates antidiphtheria toxoid antibodies. In the United States, diphtheria toxoid is administered to children as part of the combined diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (TDaP) vaccine. A patient's immunological response to diphtheria toxoid vaccination can be determined by measuring antidiphtheria toxoid IgG antibody using this enzyme immunoassay technique. An absence of antibody formation postvaccination may relate to immune deficiency disorders, either congenital or acquired, or iatrogenic due to immunosuppressive drugs.

Reference Values

Vaccinated: Positive (> or =0.01 IU/mL)  
Unvaccinated: Negative (<0.01 IU/mL)  
Reference values apply to all ages.

Interpretation

Results of 0.01 IU/mL or more suggest a vaccine response.

A diphtheria toxoid booster should be considered for patients with antidiphtheria toxoid IgG values between 0.01 and less than 0.1 IU/mL.

Cautions

This assay does not provide diagnostic proof of lack of protection against diphtheria or the presence of absence of immunodeficiency. Results must be confirmed by clinical findings and other serological tests.

Supportive Data

A total of 211 serum samples prospectively submitted to our reference laboratory for routine testing for antidiphtheria toxoid IgG antibodies by the Binding Site Anti-Diphtheria Toxoid IgG enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) were also evaluated by the EuroImmuno Anti-Diphtheria Toxoid IgG ELISA and results are summarized in the table:

Table. Comparison of the EuroImmuno and Binding Site Anti-Diphtheria Toxoid IgG ELISAs

		Binding Site IgG ELISA		
		Positive	Negative	Total
EuroImmun IgG ELISA	Positive	206	0	206
	Negative	4(a)	1	5
	Total	210	1	211

a) 1 of 4 samples tested positive by the ARUP Quantitative Multiplex Bead assay for antidiphtheria toxoid IgG

% Positive Agreement: 98.1% (206/210); 95% CI: 95.0-99.4%

% Negative Agreement: 100% (1/1); 95% CI: 16.8-100%

% Overall Agreement: 98.1% (207/211); 95% CI: 95.1-99.4%

Clinical Reference

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Division of Bacterial Diseases. Diphtheria. CDC; Updated September 9, 2022. Accessed September 5, 2024. Available at [www.cdc.gov/diphtheria/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/diphtheria/index.html)
- Truelove SA, Keegan LT, Moss WJ, et al. Clinical and epidemiological aspects of diphtheria: a systematic review and pooled analysis. Clin Infect Dis. 2020;71(1):89-97

Performance

Method Description

The Anti-Diphtheria Toxoid IgG enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay provides a quantitative in vitro assay for detecting human IgG-class antibodies to diphtheria toxoid. The test kit contains reagent wells coated with diphtheria toxoid. In the first reaction step, diluted patient samples are incubated in the wells. In the case of positive samples, specific IgG antibodies will bind to the antigens. To detect the bound antibodies, a second incubation is carried out using an enzyme-labeled antihuman IgG (enzyme conjugate), catalyzing a color reaction.(Unpublished Mayo method)

PDF Report

No

Day(s) Performed

Monday through Friday

Report Available

Same day/1 to 4 days

Specimen Retention Time

14 days

Performing Laboratory Location

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Superior Drive

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 Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. It has not been cleared or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

86317

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
DIPGS	Diphtheria Toxoid IgG Ab, S	48654-8

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
DIPG	Diphtheria IgG Ab	45166-6
DEXDP	Diphtheria IgG Value	48654-8