

**Overview****Useful For**

Evaluating patients who present with a subacute neurological disorder of undetermined etiology and have risk factors for primary lung carcinoma

Reporting an end titer result from serum specimens

**Testing Algorithm**

If the indirect immunofluorescence pattern suggests antineuronal nuclear antibody type 3 (ANNA-3), then this test will be performed at an additional charge.

**Method Name**

Only orderable as a reflex. For more information see:

- PAVAL / Paraneoplastic, Autoantibody Evaluation, Serum
- DMS2 / Dementia, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- ENS2 / Encephalopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- EPS2 / Epilepsy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- MDS2 / Movement Disorder, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- AIAES / Axonal Neuropathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- MAS1 / Myelopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum

Indirect Immunofluorescence Assay (IFA)

**NY State Available**

Yes

**Specimen****Specimen Type**

Serum

**Specimen Required**

Only orderable as a reflex. For more information see:

- PAVAL / Paraneoplastic, Autoantibody Evaluation, Serum
- DMS2 / Dementia, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- ENS2 / Encephalopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- EPS2 / Epilepsy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- MDS2 / Movement Disorder, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum
- AIAES / Axonal Neuropathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum

-MAS1 / Myelopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum

Specimen Minimum Volume

0.6 mL

Reject Due To

Gross hemolysis	Reject
Gross lipemia	Reject
Gross icterus	Reject

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum	Refrigerated (preferred)	28 days	
	Ambient	72 hours	
	Frozen	28 days	

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Antineuronal nuclear autoantibodies (ANNA) are recognized clinically as markers of a patient's immune response to specific cancers (paraneoplastic autoantibodies).

In 1985, an antineuronal nuclear autoantibody (now known as ANNA-1 or anti-Hu)(1) was described as a serological accompaniment of subacute sensory neuropathy related to small-cell lung carcinoma (SCLC). ANNA-1 was subsequently recognized as an IgG marker for a spectrum of encephalomyeloradiculoneuropathy (including gastrointestinal dysmotilities) related to SCLC,(2) childhood neuroblastoma, and thymoma. The second antineuronal nuclear antibody to be recognized (known as ANNA-2 or anti-Ri) is an IgG marker of neurological autoimmunity related to SCLC and breast carcinoma.(3)

ANNA-3 is an IgG marker of an immune response to SCLC in patients presenting with a subacute, usually multifocal, paraneoplastic neurologic disorder.(4) Paraneoplastic sensorimotor neuropathy, cerebellar ataxia, and limbic encephalopathy are the most common presentations. However, an ANNA-3-positive patient may present with any element of an encephalomyeloradiculoneuropathy.

Other autoantibody markers of immune responses to SCLC include amphiphysin, collapsin response-mediated protein-5 (CRMP-5) IgG, Purkinje cell antibody type 2 (PCA-2), antiglial neuronal nuclear antibody (AGNA-1), voltage-gated calcium channel (P/Q-type) and potassium channel (VGKC) antibodies and muscle acetylcholine receptor antibodies.

Reference Values

Only orderable as a reflex. For more information see:

---

-PAVAL / Paraneoplastic, Autoantibody Evaluation, Serum  
-DMS2 / Dementia, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum  
-ENS2 / Encephalopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum  
-EPS2 / Epilepsy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum  
-MDS2 / Movement Disorder, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum  
-AIAES / Axonal Neuropathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum  
-MAS1 / Myelopathy, Autoimmune/Paraneoplastic Evaluation, Serum

<1:240

Neuron-restricted patterns of IgG staining that do not fulfill criteria for antineuronal nuclear antibody type 3 may be reported as "unclassified anti-neuronal IgG." Complex patterns that include nonneuronal elements may be reported as "uninterpretable."

### Interpretation

A positive result confirms that a patient's subacute neurological disorder has an autoimmune basis and predicts with 90% certainty that the patient has an aerodigestive carcinoma, usually a small-cell lung carcinoma (SCLC) that is new or recurrent and confined to the chest.

Fifteen percent of patients who are eventually proven to have small-cell carcinoma have an unrelated often more obvious cancer, either coexisting or in the past.

Antineuronal nuclear antibody type 3 (ANNA-3) has not yet been encountered in healthy subjects (n=100) or patients with lung carcinoma without a neurological accompaniment (n=100) or with other cancers (n=300).

### Cautions

Antineuronal nuclear antibody type 3 (ANNA-3) is not detectable when it coexists with ANNA-1 or ANNA-2 unless its titer exceeds that of coexisting neuronal nuclear antibodies or is demonstrable by Western blot.

### Clinical Reference

1. Graus F, Cordon-Cardo C, Posner JB: Neuronal antinuclear antibody in sensory neuropathy from lung cancer. *Neurology*. 1985 Apr;35(4):538-543
2. Lucchinetti CF, Kimmel DW, Lennon VA: Paraneoplastic and oncologic profile of patients seropositive for type 1 antineuronal nuclear autoantibodies. *Neurology*. 1998 Mar;50(3):652-657
3. Vernino S, Eggenberger ER, Rogers LR, Lennon VA: Paraneoplastic neurological autoimmunity associated with ANNA-1 autoantibody and thymoma. *Neurology*. 2002 Sep 24;59(6):929-932
4. Pittock SJ, Lucchinetti CF, Lennon VA: Anti-neuronal nuclear autoantibody-type 2: paraneoplastic accompaniments. *Ann Neurol*. 2003 May;53(5):580-587
5. Chan KH, Vernino S, Lennon VA: ANNA-3 anti-neuronal nuclear antibody: marker of lung cancer-related autoimmunity. *Ann Neurol* 2001 September;50(3):301-311
6. Pittock SJ, Kryzer TJ, Lennon VA: Paraneoplastic antibodies coexist and predict cancer, not neurological syndrome. *Ann Neurol*. 2004 Nov;56(5):715-719
7. Horta ES, Lennon VA, Lachance DH, et al: Neural autoantibody clusters aid diagnosis of cancer. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2014 Jul 15;20(14):3862-3869

**Performance****Method Description**

The patient's specimen is tested by a standardized immunofluorescence assay that uses a composite frozen section of mouse cerebellum, kidney, and gut tissues. After incubation with the specimen and washing, fluorescein-conjugated goat-antihuman IgG is applied. Neuron-specific autoantibodies are identified by their characteristic fluorescence staining patterns. Specimens that are scored positive for any neuronal nuclear or cytoplasmic autoantibody are titrated. Interference by coexisting non-neuron-specific autoantibodies can usually be eliminated by serologic absorption.(Honorat JA, Komorowski L, Josephs KA, et al. IgLON5 antibody: Neurological accompaniments and outcomes in 20 patients. Neurol Neuroimmunol Neuroinflamm. 2017;4[5]:e385. Published 2017 Jul 18. doi:10.1212/NXI.0000000000000385)

Western blot is performed, as needed, to confirm seropositivity.

**PDF Report**

No

**Day(s) Performed**

Monday through Sunday

**Report Available**

5 to 8 days

**Specimen Retention Time**

2 days

**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 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**

86256

# Test Definition: AN3TS

Antineuronal Nuclear Antibody Type 3  
(ANNA-3) Titer, Serum

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
AN3TS	ANNA-3 Titer, S	94344-9

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
43433	ANNA-3 Titer, S	94344-9