

Overview

Useful For

- Serving as a first-tier test to identify a molecular and/or mitochondrial diagnosis in patients with suspected genetic disorders, which can allow for:
- Better understanding of the natural history/prognosis
 - Targeted management (anticipatory guidance, management changes, specific therapies)
 - Predictive testing of at-risk family members
 - Testing and exclusion of disease in siblings or other relatives
 - Recurrence risk assessment

Serving as a second-tier test for patients in whom previous genetic testing was negative.

Providing a potentially cost-effective alternative to establishing a molecular diagnosis compared to performing multiple independent molecular assays.

Profile Information

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
WESDX	Whole Exome Sequencing	Yes	Yes
MITOP	Mitochondrial Full Genome Analysis	Yes	Yes

Reflex Tests

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
MATCC	Maternal Cell Contamination, B	Yes	No
G226	Number of Comparators for WESDX	No, (Bill Only)	No
_STR1	Comp Analysis using STR (Bill only)	No, (Bill only)	No
_STR2	Add'l comp analysis w/STR (Bill Only)	No, (Bill only)	No
CULFB	Fibroblast Culture for Genetic Test	Yes	No
CULAF	Amniotic Fluid Culture/Genetic Test	Yes	No

Genetics Test Information

This test provides results from both whole exome sequencing and mitochondrial genome sequencing.

Whole exome sequencing utilizes next-generation sequencing (NGS) to detect single nucleotide and copy number variants within the protein-coding regions of approximately 20,000 genes. See Method Description for additional details.

Mitochondrial genome sequencing includes amplification of the entire mitochondrial genome by long-range polymerase chain reaction followed by sequencing on the NGS platform to evaluate for variants within the mitochondrial genome.

Identification of a disease-causing variant may assist with diagnosis, prognosis, clinical management, recurrence risk assessment, familial screening, and genetic counseling.

It is highly recommended that samples are submitted from the patient (proband), the patient's biological mother, and the patient's biological father (trio analysis). However, testing for singletons (patient only), duos (patient and one relative to be used as a comparator), and nontraditional trios (patient and 2 relatives to be used as comparators) will also be accepted if the patient's biological mother and biological father are not available for testing.

Additional first-tier testing may be considered/recommended. For more information, see the Ordering Guidance section.

Testing Algorithm

This test is a single order that performs whole exome sequencing and mitochondrial full genome analysis concurrently, with independently reported results. When this test is resulted, the component tests, WESDX and MITOP, are billed separately.

Prenatal specimens:

If an amniotic fluid specimen or cultured amniocytes are received, an amniotic fluid culture will be performed at an additional charge.

If a chorionic villi specimen or cultured chorionic villi are received, a fibroblast culture will be performed at an additional charge.

For any prenatal specimen that is received, maternal cell contamination testing will be performed at an additional charge.

Skin biopsy or cultured fibroblast specimens:

For skin biopsy or cultured fibroblast specimens, a 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.

Special Instructions

- [Whole Exome Sequencing: Ordering Checklist](#)
- [Blood Spot Collection Card-Spanish Instructions](#)
- [Blood Spot Collection Card-Chinese Instructions](#)
- [Blood Spot Collection Instructions](#)
- [Whole Exome and Genome Sequencing Information and Test Ordering Guide](#)

Highlights

Additional information is available; see [Whole Exome and Genome Sequencing Information and Test Ordering Guide](#).

Method Name

WESDX: Sequence Capture and Targeted Next-Generation Sequencing followed by Sanger Sequencing or Quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction (qPCR)

MITOP: Long-Range Polymerase Chain Reaction (LR-PCR) followed by Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) and Droplet Digital Polymerase Chain Reaction (ddPCR) as needed

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Varies

Ordering Guidance

The American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) recommends that whole exome sequencing be considered as a first-tier or second-tier test for patients with one or more congenital anomalies, or developmental delay or intellectual disability with onset prior to age 18 years.(1)

If a specific diagnosis is suspected, single gene testing or panel testing may be a more appropriate first-tier testing option.

This test is for affected patients (probands) only. For family member specimens being sent as comparators, order CMPRE / Family Member Comparator Specimen for Exome Sequencing, Varies. If this test is ordered on a family member comparator specimen, the test will be canceled and CMPRE will be performed as the appropriate test.

This test cannot support detection of deep intronic variants or trinucleotide repeat variants; variants in the mitochondrial genome are detected.

-For whole exome sequencing only, order WESDX / Whole Exome Sequencing for Hereditary Disorders, Varies.

-If mitochondrial genome testing only is needed, order MITOP / Mitochondrial Full Genome Analysis, Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS), Varies.

-If testing for variants in the mitochondrial genes encoded by the nuclear genome is desired, order NMITO / Nuclear Mitochondrial Gene Panel, Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS), Varies. Alternatively, order CMITO / Combined Mitochondrial Full Genome and Nuclear Gene Panel, Varies for both the mitochondrial genome and mitochondrial genes encoded by the nuclear genome.

This test is **not appropriate for** identification of somatic variants in solid tumors. If this testing is needed, order MCSTP / MayoComplete Solid Tumor Panel, Next-Generation Sequencing, Tumor.

This testing does not provide genotyping of patients for pharmacogenomic purposes. For an assessment for genes with strong drug-gene associations, order PGXQP / Focused Pharmacogenomics Panel, Varies.

Targeted testing for familial variants (also called site-specific or known variant testing) is available for variants identified by this test. See FMTT / Familial Variant, Targeted Testing, Varies.

Additional Testing Requirements

To order testing with comparator specimens, see the following steps:

1. Order this test on the patient (proband)
2. Order CMPRE / Family Member Comparator Specimen for Exome Sequencing, Varies on all family members being submitted as comparator specimens.
 - a. When available, the patient's biological mother and biological father are the preferred family member comparators.
 - b. If one or both of the patient's biological parents are not available for testing, specimens from other first-degree relatives (siblings or children) can be used as comparators. Contact the laboratory at 800-533-1710 for approval to send specimens from other relatives.
 - c. The cost of analysis for family member comparator specimens is applied to the patient's (proband's) test. Family members will not be charged separately.
3. Collect patient (proband) and family member specimens. Label specimens with full name and birthdate. **Do not label family members' specimens with the proband's name.**
4. Complete the signature sections of the Informed Consent (required for New York State clients) portion of [Whole Exome Sequencing: Ordering Checklist](#).
5. If the patient wishes to opt-out of receiving secondary findings or change the DNA storage selection, select the appropriate boxes in the Informed Consent section.
6. Attach clinic notes from specialists relevant to patient's clinical features, if available.
7. Attach pedigree information, if available.
8. Send paperwork to the laboratory along with the specimens. If not sent with the specimen, fax a copy of the paperwork to 507-284-1759, Attention: WES Genetic Counselors.

For more information see [Whole Exome and Genome Sequencing Information and Test Ordering Guide](#).

Necessary Information

[Whole Exome Sequencing: Ordering Checklist](#) is required. Fill out one form for the family and send with the specimens.

Specimen Required

Patient Preparation: A previous hematopoietic stem cell transplant from an allogenic donor will interfere with testing. For 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.**
3. Whole blood collected postnatal from an umbilical cord is also acceptable. See Additional Information

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. For postnatal umbilical cord whole blood specimens, maternal cell contamination studies are recommended to ensure test results reflect that of the patient tested. A maternal blood specimen is required to complete maternal cell contamination studies. Order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on both the cord blood and maternal blood specimens under separate order numbers.

Specimen Type: Saliva

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

Supplies:

DNA Saliva Kit High Yield (T1007)

Saliva Swab Collection Kit (T786)

Container/Tube:

Preferred: High-yield DNA saliva kit

Acceptable: Saliva swab

Specimen Volume: 1 Tube if using T1007 or 2 swabs if using T786

Collection Instructions: Collect and send specimen per kit instructions.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred) 30 days/Refrigerated 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 card

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.

Send: Ambient (preferred)/Refrigerated

Additional Information:

1. Blood spot specimens are acceptable but not recommended. Due to lower quantity/quality of DNA yielded from blood spots, 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.
2. Due to lower concentration of DNA yielded from blood spot, it is possible that additional specimen may be required to complete testing.
3. For collection instructions, see [Blood Spot Collection Instructions](#)
4. For collection instructions in Spanish, see [Blood Spot Collection Card-Spanish Instructions](#) (T777)
5. For collection instructions in Chinese, see [Blood Spot Collection Card-Chinese Instructions](#) (T800)

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/or 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: Cultured fibroblasts**Source:** Skin or tissue**Container/Tube:** T-25 flask**Specimen Volume:** 2 Flasks**Collection Instructions:** Submit confluent cultured fibroblast cells from a biopsy.**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/or 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: Tissue biopsy**Supplies:** Hank's Solution (T132)**Container/Tube:** Sterile container with sterile Hank's balanced salt solution, Ringer's solution, or normal saline**Specimen Volume:** 0.5 to 3 cm(3) or larger**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: Muscle tissue biopsy

Supplies: Muscle Biopsy Kit (T541)

Specimen Volume: 20 to 80 mg

Collection Instructions: Prepare and transport specimen per instructions in [Muscle Biopsy Specimen Preparation](#).

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

Additional Information: Specimens are preferred to be received within 24 hours of collection. Extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 24 hours and will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.

Specimen Type: Extracted DNA

Container/Tube:

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

Acceptable: Matrix tube, 1mL

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.

Prenatal Specimens

Due to its complexity, consultation with the laboratory is required for all prenatal testing; call 800-533-1710 to speak to a genetic counselor.

Specimen Type: Amniotic fluid

Container/Tube: Amniotic fluid container

Specimen Volume: 20 mL

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

Additional Information: Specimen will only be tested after culture.

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 CULAF / Culture for Genetic Testing, Amniotic Fluid. An additional 2 to 3 weeks are required to culture amniotic fluid before genetic testing can occur.
3. **All prenatal specimens must be accompanied by a maternal blood specimen;** order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen.

Specimen Type: Confluent cultured amniocytes

This does not include cultured chorionic villi.

Container/Tube: T-25 flask

Specimen Volume: 2 Flasks

Collection Instructions: Submit confluent cultured cells from another laboratory

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.
3. **All prenatal specimens must be accompanied by a maternal blood specimen;** order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen.

Specimen Type: Chorionic villi

Container/Tube: 15-mL tube containing 15 mL of transport media

Specimen Volume: 20 mg

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

Additional Information: Specimen will only be tested after culture.

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.
3. **All prenatal specimens must be accompanied by a maternal blood specimen;** order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen.

Specimen Type: Cultured chorionic villi

Container/Tube: T-25 flasks

Specimen Volume: 2 full flasks

Collection Instructions: Submit confluent cultured cells from another laboratory

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.
3. **All prenatal specimens must be accompanied by a maternal blood specimen;** order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen.

Forms

1. [Whole Exome Sequencing: Ordering Checklist](#) is required.
2. **New York Clients-Informed consent is required, included in the above form.** Document on the request form or electronic order that a copy is on file.
3. If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send 1 of the following forms with the specimen:
-[Neurology Specialty Testing Client Test Request](#) (T732)
-[Biochemical Genetics Test Request](#) (T798)

Reject Due To

All specimens will be evaluated at Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability.

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Varies	Varies		

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Whole Exome Sequencing:

This test uses next-generation sequencing technology to assess patients with suspected underlying genetic disorders for single nucleotide and copy number variants within the protein-coding regions (exons and splice junctions) of approximately 20,000 genes simultaneously. Indications for whole exome sequencing include but are not limited to(1,2):

- Patients with one or more congenital anomalies
- Patients with developmental delay or intellectual disability with onset prior to age 18 years
- Patients with a phenotype and/or family history that strongly suggests an underlying genetic cause, yet genetic tests for that phenotype have failed to arrive at a diagnosis (diagnostic odyssey)
- Patients with a phenotype and/or family history that strongly suggests an underlying genetic cause, but the phenotype does not fit with one specific disorder (numerous individual genetic tests would be required for evaluation)
- Patients with a suspected genetic disorder that has numerous underlying genetic causes, making analysis of numerous genes simultaneously a more practical approach than single-gene testing (condition is genetically heterogeneous)
- Patients with a suspected genetic disorder for which specific molecular genetic testing is not yet available
- Patients with an atypical presentation of a genetic disorder

It is highly recommended that samples are also submitted from the patient's biological mother and biological father, which are used for comparison purposes (trio analysis). Based upon published reports, a diagnosis is identified in trio-based whole exome sequencing (WES) in approximately 25% to 37% of cases, with slightly lower diagnostic yield in non-trio WES.(3,4,5) However, testing for singletons (patient only), duos (patient and one family member to be used as a comparator), and non-traditional trios (patient and 2 family members to be used as comparators) will also be accepted if both biological parents are unavailable.

Mitochondrial Full Genome Analysis:

The mitochondrion occupies a unique position in eukaryotic biology. First, it is the site of energy metabolism, without which aerobic metabolism and life as we know it would not be possible. Second, it is the sole subcellular organelle that is composed of proteins derived from 2 genomes, mitochondrial and nuclear. A group of hereditary disorders due to variants in either the mitochondrial genome or nuclear mitochondrial genes have been well characterized.

The diagnosis of mitochondrial disease can be particularly challenging as the presentation can occur at any age, involving virtually any organ system, and with widely varying severities. This test utilizes massively parallel sequencing, also termed next-generation sequencing (NGS), to determine the exact sequence of the entire 16,569 base-pair mitochondrial genome. The utility of this test is to assist in the diagnosis of the subset of mitochondrial diseases that result from variants in the mitochondrial genome. This includes certain types of myopathies and neuro-ophthalmologic

diseases, such as MELAS (mitochondrial encephalomyopathy, lactic acidosis, stroke-like episodes), MERRF (myoclonic epilepsy with ragged red fibers), mitochondrial myopathy, neurogenic muscle weakness, ataxia, retinitis pigmentosa, Leigh syndrome, Leber hereditary optic neuropathy, and chronic progressive external ophthalmoplegia. In addition to the detection of single base changes with these disorders, large deletions, such as those associated with Kearns-Sayre or Pearson syndromes, are also detected. Variants in mitochondrial proteins that are encoded by genes in the nucleus, such as the enzymes of fatty acid oxidation, are not detected using this test.

In contrast to variants in nuclear genes, which are present in either 0, 1, or 2 copies, mitochondrial variants can be present in any fraction of the total organelles, a phenomenon known as heteroplasmy. Typically, the severity of disease presentation is a function of the degree of heteroplasmy. Individuals with a higher fraction of altered mitochondria present with more severe disease than those with lower percentages of altered alleles. The sensitivity for the detection of altered alleles in a background of wild-type (or normal) mitochondrial sequences by NGS is approximately 10%.

Reference Values

An interpretive report will be provided.

Interpretation

Variants of interest are evaluated according to American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) recommendations.(6,7) Variants are classified based on known, predicted, or possible pathogenicity and reported with interpretive comments detailing their potential or known significance. Separate test reports will be issued for WESDX / Whole Exome Sequencing for Hereditary Disorders, Varies and MITOP / Mitochondrial Full Genome Analysis, Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS), Varies.

For whole exome sequencing, variants are reported in one of the following categories:

- Likely Causative: variants with a high degree of suspicion for causing the patient's reported clinical features
- Possibly Relevant: variants that may be related to the patient's clinical features or variants in genes of uncertain significance (GUS)
- Secondary Findings: Medically actionable variants unrelated to the indication for testing (see below for additional information)

For mitochondrial variants, the degree of heteroplasmy of each single nucleotide or delin (deletion-insertion) variant, defined as the ratio (percentage) of variant sequence reads to the total number of reads, will also be reported. Variants detected at or above 95% will be reported as homoplasmic. Heteroplasmy for large deletions will be reported and is determined by droplet digital polymerase chain reaction. Variants classified as benign or likely benign are not reported.

It is possible that a variant may not be recognized as the underlying cause of disease due to incomplete scientific knowledge about the function of all genes in the human genome and/or the impact of variants in those genes.

Secondary Findings:

Patients are evaluated for medically actionable secondary findings and these findings are reported in accordance with the ACMG recommendations.(8) Variants in these genes will not be evaluated or reported if the patient selects to opt out of this evaluation, unless they overlap with the patient's reported clinical phenotype.

The presence of a variant in family member comparator samples is stated on the patient's (proband's) report unless

family members opt out of secondary findings. If the patient (proband) opts out, secondary findings will not be reported for any family member. Variants that are present in family member comparators but absent from the patient (proband) are not evaluated.

The absence of a reportable secondary finding does not guarantee that there are no disease-associated or likely disease-associated variants in these genes, as portions of the genes may not be adequately covered by this testing methodology.

Exome Reanalysis:

Healthcare professionals may contact the laboratory at 800-533-1710 to request reanalysis of the patient's exome due to new patient clinical features, advances in genetic knowledge, or changes in testing methodology. A charge may apply for reanalysis.

Raw Data Requests:

Requests for the raw data obtained from whole exome sequencing should be directed to the laboratory. A separate fee may apply. Raw data will be released for individuals who complete a Mayo Clinic release of information form. If raw data for family member comparators is requested, it will only be released with an accompanying request for the proband's raw data. Contact the laboratory for instructions on completing the release of information form. The laboratory is not responsible for providing software or other tools needed to visualize, filter, or interpret this data.

Cautions**Clinical Correlations:**

Test results should be interpreted in the context of clinical findings, family history, and other laboratory data. Misinterpretation of results may occur if the information provided is inaccurate or incomplete.

A small percentage of individuals who have mitochondrial genome involvement may have a variant that is not identified by the methods performed. The absence of a variant, therefore, does not eliminate the possibility of a mitochondrial disease due to variant in the mitochondrial genome. Variants in mitochondrial genes encoded by the nuclear genome will not be detected with this assay. For predictive testing of asymptomatic individuals, it is important to first document the presence of a gene variant in an affected family member.

To discuss the availability of further testing options, or for assistance in the interpretation of these results, Mayo Clinic Laboratory genetic counselors can be contacted at 1-800-533-1710.

Technical Limitations:

If the patient has had an allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplant or a recent non-leukocyte reduced blood transfusion, results may be inaccurate due to the presence of donor DNA. Call Mayo Clinic Laboratories for instructions for testing patients who have received a bone marrow transplant.

Whole exome sequencing may not detect all types of genomic variants. In rare cases, false-negative or false-positive results may occur. The depth of coverage may be variable for some target regions. Given these limitations, negative results do not rule out the diagnosis of a genetic disorder. If a specific clinical disorder is suspected, evaluation by alternative methods can be considered.

There may be regions of genes that cannot be effectively evaluated by sequencing or deletion and duplication analysis as a result of technical limitations of the assay, including regions of homology, high guanine-cytosine (GC) content, and repetitive sequences. Confirmation of select reportable variants will be performed by alternate methodologies based on internal laboratory criteria.

This test is validated to detect 95% of deletions up to 75 base pairs (bp) and insertions up to 47 bp. Deletions/insertions (delins) of 40 or more bp, including mobile element insertions, may be less reliably detected than smaller delins.

This analysis detects multi-exon deletions/duplications; however, in some instances single exon resolution can be achieved. The reliability of detection can be variable due to isolated reduction in sequence coverage or inherent genomic complexity. Balanced structural rearrangements (such as translocations and inversions) may not be detected.

This test is not designed to detect low levels of mosaicism or to differentiate between somatic and germline variants. If there is a possibility that any detected variant is somatic, additional testing may be necessary to clarify the significance of results.

Reclassification of Variants:

Currently, it is not standard practice for the laboratory to systematically review previously classified variants on a regular basis. The laboratory encourages healthcare professionals to contact the laboratory at any time to learn how the classification of a particular variant may have changed over time. Due to broadening genetic knowledge, it is possible that the laboratory may discover new information of relevance to the patient. Should that occur the laboratory may issue an amended report.

Variant Evaluation:

Evaluation and categorization of variants is performed using published American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) and the Association for Molecular Pathology recommendations as a guideline.^(6,7) Other gene-specific guidelines may also be considered. Variants are classified based on known, predicted, or possible pathogenicity and reported with interpretive comments detailing their potential or known significance. For variants identified in the mitochondrial genome, the degree of heteroplasmy of each single nucleotide or delin (deletion/insertion) variant, defined as the ratio (percentage) of variant sequence reads to the total number of reads, will also be reported. Variants detected at or above 95% will be reported as homoplasmic. Heteroplasmy for large deletions will be reported and is determined by droplet digital polymerase chain reaction. Variants classified as benign or likely benign are not reported.

Multiple in silico evaluation tools may be used to assist in the interpretation of these results. The accuracy of predictions made by in silico evaluation tools is highly dependent upon the data available for a given gene, and periodic updates to these tools may cause predictions to change over time. Results from in silico evaluation tools should be interpreted with caution and professional clinical judgement.

Rarely, incidental findings or secondary findings outside of the genes recommended by the ACMG may implicate another predisposition or presence of active disease. These findings will be carefully reviewed to determine whether they will be reported.

Data Sharing:

Deidentified variant information may be shared in public genetic databases, such as ClinVar and Matchmaker Exchange.

Clinical Reference

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3. Yang Y, Muzny DM, Xia F, et al. Molecular findings among patients referred for clinical whole-exome sequencing. *JAMA*. 2014;312(18):1870-1879. doi:10.1001/jama.2014.14601
4. Lee H, Deignan JL, Dorrani N, et al. Clinical exome sequencing for genetic identification of rare Mendelian disorders. *JAMA*. 2014;312(18):1880-1887. doi:10.1001/jama.2014.14604
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6. Richards S, Aziz N, Bale S, et al. Standards and guidelines for the interpretation of sequence variants: a joint consensus recommendation of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for Molecular Pathology. *Genet Med*. 2015;17(5):405-24. doi:10.1038/gim.2015.30
7. McCormick EM, Lott MT, Dulik MC, et al. Specifications of the ACMG/AMP standards and guidelines for mitochondrial DNA variant interpretation. *Hum Mutat*. 2020;41(12):2028-2057
8. Miller DT, Lee K, Gordon AS, et al. Recommendations for reporting of secondary findings in clinical exome and genome sequencing, 2021 update: a policy statement of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG). *Genet Med*. 2021;23(8):1391-1398. doi:10.1038/s41436-021-01171-4

Performance

Method Description

Mitochondrial Genome Sequencing:

Next-generation sequencing (NGS) is used to test for the presence of variants within the mitochondrial genome (includes 13 protein coding genes, 22 transfer RNA genes, and 2 ribosomal RNA genes) and to determine the mitochondrial haplogroup of the patient. Large deletions within the mitochondrial genome are first detected by gel electrophoresis (as size-shifted polymerase chain reaction bands), and the locations of the deletions in the mitochondrial DNA are then determined from the NGS data. Droplet digital polymerase chain reaction (ddPCR) is utilized to confirm the presence of large deletions and determine heteroplasmy level.

The haplogroup is computed using the software package HaploGrep and PhyloTree.(Weissensteiner H, Pacher D, Kloss-Brandstätter A, et al. HaploGrep 2: mitochondrial haplogroup classification in the era of high-throughput sequencing. *Nucleic Acids Res*. 2016;44[W1]:W58-63. doi:10.1093/nar/gkw233; van Oven M, Kayser M. Updated comprehensive phylogenetic tree of global human mitochondrial DNA variation. *Hum Mutat*. 2009;30[2]:E386-E394. doi:10.1002/humu.20921. Available at phylotree.org)

Whole Exome Sequencing:

Next-generation sequencing is performed on DNA extracted from the patient and all submitted comparator samples to test for the presence of variants in coding regions and intron/exon boundaries. The human genome reference GRCh37/hg19 build is used for sequence read alignment. Variants are called using an optimized bioinformatics package. At least 99% of the bases are covered at a read depth over 30X. Sensitivity is estimated at above 99% for single nucleotide variants, above 94% for deletion-insertions (delins) less than 40 base pairs (bp), above 95% for deletions up to 75 bp, and insertions up to 47 bp. This assay also detects most copy number variants (deletions/duplications) involving 3 or more exons. In some instances, copy number variants less than 3 exons may be detected; however, the reliability of this detection is variable due to isolated reduction in sequence coverage or inherent genomic complexity. Resulting variants are filtered and annotated using public and proprietary resources and presented for analysis and interpretation using a vended interpretation tool. Confirmation of select reportable variants in the proband and submitted comparator samples may be performed by alternate methodologies based on internal laboratory criteria.

There may be regions of genes that cannot be effectively evaluated by sequencing or deletion and duplication analysis as a result of technical limitations of the assay, including regions of homology, high guanine-cytosine (GC) content, and repetitive sequences.(Unpublished Mayo method)

PDF Report
Supplemental

Day(s) Performed
Varies

Report Available
84 days

Specimen Retention Time
Whole blood: 25 days (if available); Extracted DNA: 3 months, Saliva: 30 days; Blood Spots: 1 year (if available)

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

81415-Patient only

81415, 81416-Patient and one family member comparator sample (duo) (as appropriate)

81415, 81416 x 2-Patient and two family member comparator samples (trio or non-traditional trio) (as appropriate)

81415, 81416 x 3-Patient and three family member comparator samples (quad) (as appropriate)

81460-Whole Mitochondrial Genome

81465-Whole Mitochondrial Genome Large Deletion Analysis

88233-Tissue culture, skin, solid tissue biopsy (if appropriate)

88240-Cryopreservation (if appropriate)

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
WESMT	Exome and Mitochondrial Genome	86205-2

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
55281	Result Summary	50397-9
55282	Result	82939-0
55283	Interpretation	69047-9
55284	Additional Information	48767-8
55285	Specimen	31208-2
55286	Source	31208-2
55287	Released By	18771-6
616410	Interpretation	69047-9
616411	Specimen	31208-2
616412	Source	31208-2
616413	Released By	18771-6