

Overview

Useful For

Evaluating patients with symptoms suspicious for disorders of purine and pyrimidine metabolism

Monitoring patients with disorders of purine and pyrimidine metabolism

Laboratory evaluation of primary and secondary hyperuricemias

Assessing tolerance for fluoropyrimidine drugs used in cancer treatment

Aiding in the diagnosis of individuals with suspected dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase deficiency

Genetics Test Information

There are at least 35 known inherited disorders of purine and pyrimidine metabolism, which cause a variety of neurological, immunological, hematological, and renal manifestations.

Testing Algorithm

For information see: [Epilepsy: Unexplained Refractory and/or Familial Testing Algorithm](#).

Special Instructions

- [Epilepsy: Unexplained Refractory and/or Familial Testing Algorithm](#)

Highlights

This test provides a quantitative report of abnormal levels of purines and pyrimidines in plasma identified via liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry.

Method Name

Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Plasma

Ordering Guidance

The preferred test to rule-out inherited disorders of purine and pyrimidine metabolism is PUPYU / Purines and Pyrimidines Panel, Random, Urine.

This test **does not evaluate** succinyladenosine. If succinyladenosine analysis is needed, order PUPYU / Purines and Pyrimidines Panel, Random, Urine.

Necessary Information

Patient's age is required.

Specimen Required

Collection Container/Tube: Lavender top (EDTA)

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

Specimen Volume: 0.5 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. Centrifuge at 4 degrees C and aliquot plasma into plastic vial.
2. Send plasma frozen.

Forms

[If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a Biochemical Genetics Test Request](#) (T798) with the specimen.

Specimen Minimum Volume

0.2 mL

Reject Due To

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Gross hemolysis | OK |
| Gross lipemia | OK |
| Gross icterus | OK |

Specimen Stability Information

| Specimen Type | Temperature | Time | Special Container |
|---------------|-------------|---------|-------------------|
| Plasma | Frozen | 90 days | |

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Purines (adenine, guanine, xanthine, hypoxanthine, uric acid) and pyrimidines (uracil, thymine, cytosine, orotic acid) are involved in all biological processes, providing the basis for storage, transcription, and translation of genetic information as RNA and DNA. Purines are required by all cells for growth and survival and play a role in signal transduction and translation. Purines and pyrimidines originate primarily from endogenous synthesis, with dietary sources contributing only a small amount. The end-product of purine metabolism is uric acid (2,6,8-trioxypurine), which must be excreted continuously to avoid toxic accumulation.

Disorders of purine and pyrimidine metabolism can involve all organ systems at any age. The diagnosis of the specific disorders of purine and pyrimidine metabolism is based upon the clinical presentation of the patient, determination of

specific concentration patterns of purine and pyrimidine metabolites, and confirmatory enzyme assays and molecular genetic testing.

Over 35 inborn errors of purine and pyrimidine metabolism have been documented. Clinical features are dependent upon the specific disorder but represent a broad spectrum of clinical manifestations that may include immunodeficiency, developmental delay, nephropathy, and neurologic involvement. The most common disorder of purine metabolism is deficiency of hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyl transferase (HPRT), which usually results in classic Lesch-Nyhan syndrome. Lesch-Nyhan syndrome is an X-linked disorder characterized by crystals in urine, neurologic impairment, mild to severe intellectual disability, development of self-injurious behavior, and uric acid nephropathy.

Treatments for Lesch-Nyhan syndrome include allopurinol, urine alkalinization and hydration for nephropathy, and supportive management of neurologic symptoms. For milder forms of HPRT deficiency, treatment that can mitigate the potentially devastating effects of these diseases are disorder dependent; therefore, early recognition through screening and subsequent confirmatory testing is highly desirable.

Dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase (DPD) deficiency can result in a severe disorder in infancy involving seizures, intellectual disability, microcephaly, and hypertonia. In its mildest form, however, individuals with DPD deficiency may be asymptomatic but are at risk for life-threatening toxic reactions to a certain class of drugs used to treat cancer called fluoropyrimidines (eg, 5-fluorouracil and capecitabine). If individuals with DPD deficiency ingest this medication, they can develop fluoropyrimidine toxicity. This drug toxicity can result in inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract and associated symptoms, as well as abnormal blood counts including neutropenia and thrombocytopenia.

Reference Values

| Age range | 0-1 years | >1-4 years | 5-18 years | >18 years |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Uracil | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Thymine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Adenine | < or =3 | < or =3 | < or =3 | < or =3 |
| Hypoxanthine | < or =35 | < or =17 | < or =15 | < or =15 |
| Xanthine | < or =6 | < or =6 | < or =6 | < or =3 |
| Dihydroorotic | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Uric Acid | 100-450 | 150-500 | 150-500 | 150-500 |
| Deoxythymidine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Deoxyuridine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Uridine | < or =14 | < or =9 | < or =9 | < or =9 |
| Deoxyinosine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Deoxyguanosine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Inosine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Guanosine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| Dihydrouracil | < or =3 | < or =3 | < or =3 | < or =3 |
| Dihydrothymine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| N-carbamoyl-beta-alanine | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |
| N-carbamoyl- | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 | < or =2 |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| beta-aminoisobutyric acid | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|

All results reported as nmol/mL

Interpretation

Abnormal concentrations of measurable compounds will be reported along with an interpretation. The interpretation of an abnormal metabolite pattern includes an overview of the results and of their significance, a correlation to available clinical information, possible differential diagnosis, recommendations for additional biochemical testing and confirmatory studies (enzyme assay, molecular analysis), name, and phone number of contacts who may provide these studies, and a phone number of the laboratory directors in case the referring physician has additional questions.

Cautions

Additional confirmatory testing is required for follow-up of abnormal results.

Clinical Reference

1. Jinnah HA, Friedmann T. Lesch-Nyhan disease and its variants. In: Valle D, Antonarakis S, Ballabio A, Beaudet AL, Mitchell GA, eds. The Online Metabolic and Molecular Bases of Inherited Disease. McGraw-Hill; 2019. Accessed January 4, 2024. Available at <https://ommbid.mhmedical.com/content.aspx?sectionid=225089443>

2. Nyhan WL, Hoffmann GF, Al-Aqeel AI, Barshop BA. Introduction to the disorders of purine and pyrimidine metabolism. Atlas of Inherited Metabolic Diseases. 4th ed. CRC Press; 2020:495-495

3. Balasubramaniam S, Duley JA, Christodoulou J. Inborn errors of purine metabolism: clinical update and therapies. J Inherit Metab Dis. 2014;37:669-686

4. Balasubramaniam S, Duley JA, Christodoulou J. Inborn errors of pyrimidine metabolism: clinical update and therapy. J Inherit Metab Dis. 2014;37:687-698

Performance

Method Description

Filtered EDTA plasma is mixed with an internal standard mixture and analyzed for uracil, thymine, adenine, hypoxanthine, xanthine, dihydroorotic, uric acid, deoxythymidine, deoxyuridine, uridine, deoxyinosine, deoxyguanosine, inosine, guanosine, dihydrouracil, dihydrothymine, N-carbamoyl- beta-alanine and N-carbamoyl- beta-aminoisobutyric acid by liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry. The ratios of the extracted peak areas of the purine and pyrimidine analytes to the added internal standards are used to calculate the concentration of purines and pyrimidines present in the sample.(Unpublished Mayo method)

PDF Report

No

Day(s) Performed

Tuesday

Report Available

3 to 9 days

Specimen Retention Time

1 month

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

82542

LOINC® Information

| Test ID | Test Order Name | Order LOINC® Value |
|---------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| PUPYP | Purines and Pyrimidines Panel, P | 79665-6 |

| Result ID | Test Result Name | Result LOINC® Value |
|-----------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 92310 | Interpretation (PUPYP) | 79659-9 |
| 92292 | Uracil | 75152-9 |
| 92293 | Thymine | 75121-4 |
| 92294 | Hypoxanthine | 75135-4 |
| 92295 | Xanthine | 75144-6 |
| 92296 | Dihydroorotic | 79654-0 |
| 92297 | Uric Acid | 14933-6 |
| 92298 | Deoxythymidine | 48162-2 |
| 92299 | Deoxyuridine | 47957-6 |
| 92300 | Uridine | 75159-4 |
| 92301 | Deoxyinosine | 75127-1 |
| 92302 | Deoxyguanosine | 75134-7 |
| 92303 | Inosine | 75150-3 |
| 92304 | Guanosine | 79670-6 |
| 92305 | Dihydrouracil | 79682-1 |
| 92306 | Dihydrothymine | 79669-8 |

| | | |
|--------|------------------------------------|---------|
| 92307 | N-carbamoyl-B-alanine | 79656-5 |
| 92308 | N-carbamoyl-B-aminoisobutyric acid | 79582-3 |
| 92309 | Reviewed By | 18771-6 |
| 606842 | Adenine | 75131-3 |