

Memo

To: AML Reference Laboratory Clients

From: Allina Medical Laboratories, Reference Laboratory Services

Date: June 3, 2009

Re: Acetylcholine Receptor (AChR) Blocking Ab No Longer Available at MML

Tests Affected: Myasthenia Gravis/Lambert-Eaton (Mayo #83369); Myasthenia Gravis, Adult (Mayo #83370) and Pediatric (Mayo # 83371) and Paraneoplastic Autoantibody Evaluation, Serum (Mayo Test #83380).

Explanation: Allina Medical Laboratories has received communication from Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML) that **effective July 9th, 2009**, the Acetylcholine Receptor (AChR) Blocking Antibody test will become obsolete. Currently, the AChR Blocking antibodies is only performed if AChR Modulating antibodies is performed through reflex and is determined to be 40% to 100% loss or indeterminate. AChR blocking antibodies represent a minority of the AChR antibodies and usually occur in association with the AChR binding antibodies and are very rarely present without elevated AChR modulating antibodies. The current AChR modulating antibodies test performed at Mayo Medical Laboratories detects both AChR modulating and blocking antibodies. MML has determined that separate measurement of AChR Blocking antibodies offers no additional information to the diagnosis and management of myasthenia gravis (MG).

In order to meet the needs of our customers, beginning July 9th AML will offer both the AChR Blocking and AChR Modulating Antibodies as single orderable tests which will be sent to Quest Diagnostics for analysis. Until the blocking and modulating antibody tests can be built in our LIS system, they will be ordered as MSO's.

Test Name:	ACETYLCHOLINE BLOCKING ANTIBODY
Test Number:	994/MSO
Collect:	1 ml Serum – Plain Red
Container:	Screw Cap Transfer Vial
Processing:	Spin & Separate
Transport/Stability:	Room Temp (14 Days); Refrigerated (14 Days)
Alternate Names:	Myasthenia Gravis, Paraneoplastic
Performing Lab:	Quest Diagnostics (34459)
Processing Details:	If SST is drawn please transfer to screw cap vial before transport.
Method:	Radioimmunoassay
CPT Codes:	83519-90
List Price:	\$87.50

Test Name: ACETYLCHOLINE MODULATING ANTIBODY
Test Number: 994/MSO
Collect: 1 ml Serum – Plain Red
Container: Screw Cap Transfer Vial
Processing: Spin and Separate
Transport/Stability: Refrigerated (14 Days); Room Temp (14 Days);
Alternate Names: Myathenia Gravis, Paraneoplastic
Performing Lab: Quest Diagnostics (26474)
Collection/
Processing Details: If SST is drawn please transfer to screw cap vial before transport
Method: Radio Binding Assay
CPT Codes: 83519-90
List Price: \$105.50