

ImmunoCAP® Specific IgE Testing – New Test Codes, Better Methodology and On-Site Testing Improves TAT

November 15, 2010

As part of our ongoing effort to enhance our on-site test menu, Genesis Clinical Laboratory now offers ImmunoCAP® Specific IgE. We will continue to offer the four profiles most commonly used to aid in the diagnosis and management of allergic conditions. These profiles provide an accurate and convenient method of confirming or excluding atopy in patients with allergy-like symptoms.¹⁻⁴ When used with a thorough patient history and physical examination, the test results provide objective, quantifiable evidence of IgE-mediated allergen sensitivity, which may be associated with atopic dermatitis, gastrointestinal disorders, recurrent otitis media, allergic rhinitis and allergic asthma. These profiles were selected in consultation with allergy experts and include:

- * [UPPER RESP Region 8 – NEW TEST CODE 4200 \(formerly 0744\)](#) – This profile includes 25 indoor and outdoor allergens most prevalent in our geographic region in addition to Total IgE.
- * [RESP ALLERGY Region 5 – NEW TEST CODE 4203 \(formerly 0724\)](#) – This profile will include 26 indoor and outdoor allergens and Total IgE.
 - * **For use in adults and school-aged children with suspected allergic rhinitis and/or asthma symptoms. The profiles provide a 95% positive predictive value for allergy confirmation.**
- [Childhood Allergy Panel – NEW TEST CODE 4201 \(formerly 0727\)](#) - Recommended for children ages 3 months to 3 years of age. This profile contains the 15 most common food and indoor environmental allergens in addition to total IgE.
- [Food Allergy Panel Adult – NEW TEST CODE 4202 \(formerly 0728\)](#) - Includes 12 key food allergens that have been selected to reflect common food atopy.

Derived from a single blood draw, these profiles employ third generation ImmunoCAP® technology, a quantitative assay far superior to earlier RAST technology.³⁻⁷ **The components of these profiles and other allergens are also available as individual orders.** Appropriate avoidance of allergic triggers is recognized as an important tool in the management of allergies and asthma.

In fact, one of the key differences in the 2007 NIH Asthma Guidelines is that “Evidence strengthens recommendations that reducing exposure to inhalant indoor allergens can improve asthma control.” Allergies are involved in approximately 60% of adult asthmatics and 90% of pediatric asthmatics.^{2,3} ImmunoCAP® Specific IgE blood testing helps primary care to address this key to asthma management.

The guidelines stress that “exposure of a person who has asthma to inhalant allergens to which the person is sensitive increases airway inflammation and symptoms. Substantially reducing such exposure may significantly reduce inflammation, symptoms, and need for medication.”¹

For these reasons, the guidelines recommend that “For at least those patients who have persistent asthma, the clinician should evaluate the potential role of allergens, particularly indoor inhalant allergens (Evidence A):

- Use the patient’s medical history to identify allergen exposures that may worsen the patient’s asthma.
- Use skin testing or in vitro testing to reliably determine sensitivity to perennial indoor inhalant allergens to which the patient is exposed.
- Assess the significance of positive tests in the context of the patient’s medical history.”

For allergic asthma, the Respiratory Allergy Profile will help identify the allergic triggers. If the results are negative, the clinician can then focus on non-allergic triggers.¹⁻⁴ ImmunoCAP® test results guide asthma management including avoidance, medication selection, and appropriate referral.³

For more information about Allergy testing, contact Client Services at 708-783-3280 Select option 2 or contact your sales representative.

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1. NIH. Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma. 2007. 2. Høst. Statement of The Section on Pediatrics, European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. Allergy. 2003. 3. Allen-Ramey, F et al. JABFM 2005. 4. *Asthma & Allergy Resource Guide*. AAFP 2004. 5. Wood, R et al. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol*. 2007. 6. Wang, J et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2008. 7. *Pediatric Allergy: Principles and Practice*. Mosby 2003

NEW test codes will be active BEGINNING Monday, November 22, 2010

UPPER RESP REG 8
NEW Test Code 4200
(Formerly 0744)

4204 Total IGE
4205 Alternaria Alternata (m6)
4206 Aspergillus fumigatus (m3)
4208 Bermuda Grass (g2)
4209 Box Elder (t1)
4210 Cat Epi/Dander (e1)
4211 Cladosporium Herbarum (m2)
4213 Cockroach (i6)
4214 Common Pigweed (w14)
4215 Common Ragweed (w1)
4216 Cottonwood (t14)
4217 Dog Dander (e5)
4218 D Farinae (d2)
4219 D Pteronyssinus (d1)
4221 Elm Tree (t8)
4225 Maple Leaf Sycamore (t11)
4227 Mountain Cedar (t6)
4228 Mulberry (t70)
4229 Oak Tree (t7)
4231 Pecan (t22)
4232 Penicillin Notatum (m1)
4233 Rough Marsh Elder (w16)
4234 Russian Thistle (w11)
4240 Timothy Grass (g6)
4242 Walnut Tree (t10)
4244 White Ash (t15)

RESP ALLERGY REG 5
NEW Test Code 4203
(Formerly 0724)

4204 Total IGE
4205 Alternaria Alternata (m6)
4206 Aspergillus fumigatus (m3)
4208 Bermuda Grass (g2)
4207 Birch Tree (t3)
4209 Box Elder (t1)
4210 Cat Epi/Dander (e1)
4211 Cladosporium Herbarum (m2)
4213 Cockroach (i6)
4214 Common Pigweed (w14)
4215 Common Ragweed (w1)
4216 Cottonwood (t14)
4217 Dog Dander (e5)
4218 D Farinae (d2)
4219 D Pteronyssinus (d1)
4221 Elm Tree (t8)
4225 Maple Leaf Sycamore (t11)
4227 Mountain Cedar (t6)
4228 Mulberry (t70)
4229 Oak Tree (t7)
4231 Pecan (t22)
4232 Penicillin Notatum (m1)
4234 Russian Thistle (w11)
4235 Sheep Sorrel (w18)
4240 Timothy Grass (g6)
4242 Walnut Tree (t10)
4244 White Ash (t15)

CHILDHOOD ALLERGY PANEL
NEW Test Code 4201
(Formerly 0727)

4204 Total IGE
4205 Alternaria Alternata (m6)
4210 Cat Epi/Dander (e1)
4211 Cladisporium Herbarum (m2)
4213 Cockroach (i6)
4217 Dog Dander (e5)
4218 D Farinae (d2)
4219 D Pteronyssinus (d1)
4220 Egg White (f1)
4222 Fish, Cod (f3)
4226 Milk (f2)
4230 Peanut (f13)
4238 Shrimp (f24)
4239 Soybean (f14)
4241 Walnut-nut (f256)
4243 Wheat (f4)

FOOD ALLERGY PANEL ADULT
NEW Test Code 4202
(Formerly 0728)

4212 Clam (f207)
4220 Eggwhite (f1)
4222 Fish, Cod (f3)
4223 Corn (f8)
4226 Milk (f2)
4230 Peanuts (f13)
4236 Scallop (f338)
4237 Sesame Seed (f10)
4238 Shrimp (f24)
4239 Soybean (f14)
4241 Walnut-nut (f256)
4243 Wheat (f4)