RPGR-related X-linked Retinitis Pigmentosa: RPGR Gene Sequencing

Test Code: SRPGR  
Turnaround time: 6 weeks  
CPT Codes: 81479 x1

Condition Description

Retinitis pigmentosa (RP) is a group of inherited disorders characterized by abnormalities of the photoreceptors on the retinal pigment epithelium. RP disorders lead to progressive visual loss. The first symptom is usually night blindness followed by visual field constriction which eventually leads to central vision loss. Isolated RP is most often inherited as an autosomal recessive disorder (50-60% of cases), but can be autosomal dominant (30-40%), or X-linked (5-15%) as well. More than 45 different genes accounting for approximately 60% of affected individuals have been implicated in RP.

Mutations in RPGR (Xp21.1), also called RP3, account for 70-90% of X-linked RP cases. Carrier females may show mild retinal degeneration. Mutations in RPGR have also been identified in individuals with cone-rod dystrophy, RP with sinorespiratory infection, with or without deafness, and atrophic macular degeneration.

This testing is for sequence analysis of the RPGR gene only.


References:

- GeneReviews
- OMIM #312610: RPGR gene
- OMIM #300029: RP3 gene

Genes

RPGR

Indications

This test is indicated for:

- Confirmation of a clinical diagnosis of RPGR-Related X-Linked RP.
- Carrier testing in adults with a family history of RPGR-Related X-Linked RP.

Methodology

Next Generation Sequencing: In-solution hybridization of all coding exons is performed on the patient's genomic DNA. Although some deep intronic regions may also be analyzed, this assay is not meant to interrogate most promoter regions, deep intronic regions, or other regulatory elements, and does not detect single or multi-exon deletions or duplications. Direct sequencing of the captured regions is performed using next generation sequencing. The patient's gene sequences are then compared to a standard reference sequence. Potentially causative variants and areas of low coverage are Sanger-sequenced. Sequence variations are classified as pathogenic, likely pathogenic, benign, likely benign, or variants of unknown significance. Variants of unknown significance may require further studies of the patient and/or family members.

Detection

Clinical Sensitivity: Mutations in the RPGR gene account for 70-90% of XLRP cases. Mutations in the promoter region, some mutations in the introns and other regulatory element mutations cannot be detected by this analysis. Large deletions will not be detected by this analysis. Results of molecular analysis should be interpreted in the context of the patient's clinical and/or biochemical phenotype.

Analytical Sensitivity: ~99%

Specimen Requirements

Submit only 1 of the following specimen types

* Preferred specimen type: Whole Blood

Type: Whole Blood

Specimen Requirements:

In EDTA (purple top) tube:  
Infants (2 years): 3-5 ml  
Older Children & Adults: 5-10 ml
Specimen Collection and Shipping: Refrigerate until time of shipment. Ship sample within 5 days of collection at room temperature with overnight delivery.

**Type: Saliva**

Specimen Requirements:

Oragene™ Saliva Collection kit (available through EGL) used according to manufacturer instructions.

Specimen Collection and Shipping: Store sample at room temperature. Ship sample within 5 days of collection at room temperature with overnight delivery.

**Related Tests**

- Deletion/duplication analysis of the **RPGR** gene by CGH array is available for those individuals in whom sequence analysis is negative.
- Custom diagnostic mutation analysis (KM) is available to family members if mutations are identified by targeted mutation testing or sequencing analysis.
- Prenatal testing is available only for known familial mutations to individuals who are confirmed carriers of mutations. Please contact the laboratory genetic counselor to discuss appropriate testing prior to collecting a prenatal specimen.
- Sequencing analysis for the **RP2** gene is also available.