Mucolipidosis Type II: GNPTAB Gene Sequencing

**Condition Description**

Mucolipidosis II (ML II or I-cell disease) is described as a Hurler-like lysosomal storage disorder with severe clinical and radiologic features. Leroy et al. (1970) first described this condition and named it I-cell disease, for inclusion cell disease, reflecting the buildup or inclusions noticeable in the lysosomes. The accumulation of material in the lysosomes results from the inability of the lysosomal enzymes to enter the lysosome for normal degradation. A biochemical marker signal is required for proper trafficking of the lysosomal enzymes, from the site of production in the endoplasmic reticulum to the lysosome itself. This marker was identified as a mannose-6-phosphate residue on the lysosomal enzyme that interacts with a specific receptor on the lysosomal membrane, which then triggers entry into the lysosome. The biochemical defect in I-cell disease is due to the lack of the enzyme (abbreviated GlcNAc-1-P) involved in the addition of the mannose-6-phosphate residue.

Clinical symptoms may be noticeable from infancy and may include: congenital dislocation of the hip, thoracic deformities, hernia, and hyperelastic gums which are evident soon after birth. Other symptoms may include delayed psychomotor development, clear corneas, and restricted joint mobility.

Mutations in the GNPTAB gene cause a deficiency of the enzyme GlcNAc-1-P. Diagnostic sequencing analysis of the GNPTAB gene coding region is available for mucolipidosis II patients and their at-risk relatives on a clinical basis. For patients with mutations not identified by full gene sequencing, a separate deletion/duplication assay is available using a targeted CGH array (LJ).

For questions about testing for ML II, call EGL Genetics at (470) 378-2200 or (855) 831-7447. For further clinical information about lysosomal storage diseases, including management and treatment, call the Emory Lysosomal Storage Disease Center at (404) 778-8565 or (800) 200-1524.

**References:**


**Genes**

GNPTAB

**Indications**

- Confirmation of clinical diagnosis of ML II disease
- Prenatal testing for known familial mutation(s).
- Assessment of carrier status in high risk family members known mutation analysis

**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: In 3 unrelated Korean girls with type II mucolipidosis, compound heterozygosity for 5 different mutations was detected in the GNPTAB gene [4]. In 6 patients with clinically and biochemically diagnosed mucolipidosis II, homozygosity or compound heterozygosity was identified for 7 mutations in the GNPTAB gene [5].

Analytical Sensitivity: ~99%

Prevalence: The estimated prevalence of all lysosomal storage disorders is 2-5 per 100,000. The prevalence of ML II is not specifically known, but is likely to be rare and may vary by ethnicity.

**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.

Special Instructions

Submit copies of diagnostic biochemical test results with the sample. Sequence analysis is required before deletion/duplication analysis by targeted CGH array. If sequencing is performed outside EGL Genetics, please submit a copy of the sequencing report with the test requisition. Contact the laboratory if further information is needed.

Related Tests

- Known Mutation Analysis (KM) is available to test family members.
- Deletion/Duplication Assay is available separately for individuals where mutations are not identified by sequence analysis. Refer to the test requisition or contact the laboratory for more information.
- Prenatal testing is available for known familial mutations only. Please call the Laboratory Genetic Counselor for specific requirements for prenatal testing before collecting a fetal sample.