Limb-Girdle Muscular Dystrophy (LGMD) Type 1B: LMNA Gene Deletion/Duplication

Test Code: DLMNA  
Turnaround time: 2 weeks  
CPT Codes: 81228 x1

Condition Description

Limb-girdle muscular dystrophy (LGMD) is a descriptive term applied to a clinically and genetically heterogeneous group of childhood- or adult-onset muscular dystrophies. LGMD is characterized by weakness and wasting restricted to the limb musculature, proximal greater than distal. Most individuals with LGMD show relative sparing of the heart and bulbar muscles, although exceptions occur, depending on the genetic subtype. Onset, progression, and distribution of the weakness and wasting vary considerably among individuals and genetic subtypes. Serum creatine kinase (CK) levels in individuals with LGMD are usually elevated, and muscle biopsy reveals dystrophic changes. Immunohistochemistry (IHC) testing of a muscle biopsy sample can be used to determine the presence or absence of specific proteins, and confirmatory genetic testing is available in some cases. LGMDs are distinct from the much more common X-linked dystrophinopathies, which include Duchenne and Becker muscular dystrophy (DMD/BMD).

LGMD 1B, also referred to as laminopathy, can have an age of onset from birth through adulthood, with about half of affected individuals having childhood onset. Both proximal lower limb muscle weakness and cardiac involvement are present by the third decade. The onset of skeletal muscle weakness occurs prior to the onset of cardiac involvement, which may manifest in the teenage years or later. Left ventricular hypertrophy and atrioventricular conduction defect are common and can progress to second-degree heart block requiring a pacemaker; rarely, dilated cardiomyopathy is present. Serum CK levels are normal to mildly elevated, and IHC is normal. LGMD 1B is inherited in an autosomal dominant manner.

Mutations in the LMNA gene (1q21.2) cause LGMD 1B. Mutations in LMNA also result in at least ten other allelic conditions, including autosomal dominant and autosomal recessive Emery-Dreifuss muscular dystrophy, Dunnigan-type familial partial lipodystrophy (FPLD), mandibuloacral dysplasia, Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome, and Charcot-Marie-Tooth type 2B1.

For patients with suspected LGMD 1B, sequence analysis is recommended as the first step in mutation identification. For patients in whom mutations are not identified by full gene sequencing, deletion/duplication analysis is appropriate.


References:

Genes
LMNA

Indications

This test is indicated for:
- Confirmation of a clinical diagnosis of LGMD 1B in individuals who have tested negative for sequence analysis

Methodology

DNA isolated from peripheral blood is hybridized to a CGH array to detect deletions and duplications. The targeted CGH array has overlapping probes which cover the entire genomic region.

Detection

Detection is limited to duplications and deletions. The CGH array will not detect point or intronic mutations. Results of molecular analysis must be interpreted in the context of the patient's clinical and/or biochemical phenotype.

Specimen Requirements

Submit only 1 of the following specimen types

Type: Whole Blood (EDTA)

Specimen Requirements:
EDTA (Purple Top)  
Infants and Young Children (2 years of age to 10 years old): 3-5 ml  
Older Children & Adults: 5-10 ml  
Autopsy: 2-3 ml unclotted cord or cardiac blood

Specimen Collection and Shipping:
Ship sample at room temperature for receipt at EGL within 72 hours of collection. Do not freeze.

Type: DNA, Isolated
Specimen Requirements:
Microtainer
3µg
Isolation using the Perkin Elmer™Chemagen™ Automated Extraction method or Qiagen™ Puregene kit for DNA extraction is recommended.

Specimen Collection and Shipping:
Refrigerate until time of shipment in 100 ng/µL in TE buffer. Ship sample at room temperature with overnight delivery.

Special Instructions
Submit copies of diagnostic biochemical test results with the sample, if appropriate. Contact the laboratory if further information is needed.

Sequence analysis is required before deletion/duplication analysis by targeted CGH array. If sequencing is performed outside of EGL Genetics, please submit a copy of the sequencing report with the test requisition.

Related Tests
- Sequence analysis of the LMNA gene is available and is required before deletion/duplication analysis.
- Sequence and deletion/duplication analysis panels are available for 11 LGMD genes.
- Prenatal testing is available to couples who are confirmed carriers of mutations. Please contact the laboratory genetic counselor to discuss appropriate testing prior to collecting a prenatal specimen.
- Full gene sequencing is available for the ZMPSTE24 gene.