XLMR 14, Syndromic: **UPF3B** Gene Sequencing

**Test Code:** SUPF3  
**Turnaround time:** 4 weeks  
**CPT Codes:** 81479 x1

### Condition Description

In 2007, Tarpey et al. conducted a study of individuals with mental retardation (MR) from 250 families compatible with X linkage. None of these individuals had mutations in any of the XLMR-linked genes identified at the time. Three different mutations in the **UPF3B** gene (Xq25-q26) were identified in three families. One of these families had a clinical diagnosis of FG syndrome (FGS), while the other two families had clinical diagnoses of Lujan-Fryns syndrome (LFS). They then analyzed 118 affected individuals from a cohort of families with putative XLMR and found a **UPF3B** mutation in a family with nonsyndromic XLMR. Mental retardation in these families was mild to severe.

Features present in more than half of affected males in the first three families included a slender build with poor musculature, a long and thin face, high arched palate, high nasal bridge, and pectus. Half of the affected individuals had autistic features or behavioral problems. While the clinical phenotype is variable, many of these clinical features are suggestive of LFS and FGS. The affected males from the fourth family had normal physical examinations, and were hence classified as nonsyndromic XLMR.

Carrier females had normal intelligence and normal physical examinations.

For patients with suspected XLMR 14, 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

**UPF3B**

### Indications

This test is indicated for:
- Confirmation of a clinical diagnosis of XLMR 14  
- Carrier testing in adults with a family history of XLMR 14

### Methodology

PCR amplification of 11 exons contained in the **UPF3B** gene is performed on the patient's genomic DNA. Direct sequencing of amplification products is performed in both forward and reverse directions, using automated fluorescence dideoxy sequencing methods. The patient's gene sequences are then compared to a normal reference sequence. Sequence variations are classified as mutations, benign variants unrelated to disease, or variations of unknown clinical significance. Variants of unknown clinical significance may require further studies of the patient and/or family members. This assay does not interrogate the promoter region, deep intronic regions, or other regulatory elements, and does not detect large deletions.

### Detection

Clinical Sensitivity: Unknown. 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 biochemical phenotype.

Analytical Sensitivity: ~99%

### 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: Saliva

Specimen Requirements:
Oragene™ Saliva Collection Kit
Orangene™ Saliva Collection Kit used according to manufacturer instructions. Please contact EGL for a Saliva Collection Kit for patients that cannot provide a blood sample.

Specimen Collection and Shipping:
Please do not refrigerate or freeze saliva sample. Please store and ship at room temperature.

Type: DNA, Isolated

Specimen Requirements:
Microtainer
8µg
Isolation using the Perkin Elmer™Chemagen™ 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

- Deletion/duplication analysis of the *UPF3B* 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 to adult females who are confirmed carriers of mutations. Please contact the laboratory genetic counselor to discuss appropriate testing prior to collecting a prenatal specimen.