Cohen Syndrome: **VPS13B** Gene Sequencing

**Test Code:** SVPS1  
**Turnaround time:** 6 weeks  
**CPT Codes:** 81479 x1

### Condition Description

Cohen syndrome, an autosomal recessive condition, is characterized by failure to thrive, obesity, hypotonia, and developmental delays. Common features of Cohen syndrome include retinal dystrophy that appears by mid-childhood, progressive high myopia, acquired microcephaly, non-progressive intellectual disability, global developmental delay, hypotonia, and joint hypermobility. Less common features include short stature, small or narrow hands and feet, truncal obesity (which appears during or after mid-childhood), friendly disposition, and non-cyclic granulocytopenia.

Mutations in the **VPS13B** gene (8q22-q23) (also known as **COH1**) cause Cohen syndrome and can be detected in 88% of individuals with typical clinical features of Cohen syndrome.

### References:

- GeneReviews
- OMIM #607817: VSP13B gene
- OMIM #216550: Cohen syndrome

### Genes

**VPS13B**

### Indications

This test is indicated for:

- Confirmation of a clinical diagnosis of Cohen Syndrome.
- Carrier testing in adults with a family history of Cohen Syndrome.

### 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:** 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 clinical and/or 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 24 hours of collection. Do not refrigerate or freeze.

#### Type: DNA, Isolated

**Specimen Requirements:**
- Microtainer 8µg

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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.

**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.

### Related Tests

- Deletion/duplication analysis of the VPS13B 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.
- X-Linked Intellectual Disability panels are available for 30, 60, and 90+ genes.