

Congenital Disorder of Glycosylation Ih: *ALG8* Gene Deletion/Duplication

Test Code: DALG8

Turnaround time: 2 weeks

CPT Codes: 81228 x1

Condition Description

Congenital disorders of glycosylation (CDG) are a group of autosomal recessive genetic disorders caused by the alteration in synthesis and structure of protein and lipid glycosylation. In the past decade, over 30 genetic diseases have been identified that alter glycan synthesis, structure and ultimately the function of nearly all organ systems.

CDG type I (CDGI) disorders result from impaired synthesis of the incomplete lipid linked oligosaccharide (LLO) and/or its attachment to the growing polypeptide chain. CDG-Ia is the most common form reported, due to phosphomannomutase deficiency, an enzyme that converts mannose-6-phosphate to mannose-1-phosphate. CDG-Ib (phosphomannose isomerase, MPI deficiency) is the only known treatable form, by giving mannose orally. CDG type II (CDGII) includes defects in processing of N-glycans.

Phenotypes of this disorder are extremely variable. Manifestations range from severe developmental delay and hypotonia with multiple organ system involvement beginning in infancy, to hypoglycemia and protein-losing enteropathy with normal development. Most subtypes have been described in only a few individuals, however, thus understanding of the phenotypes is limited.

The current diagnostic test for CDG is analysis of serum transferrin glycoforms, also called "transferrin isoforms analysis", or "carbohydrate-deficient transferrin analysis." If positive, this testing can be followed by DNA testing to identify mutations in the gene involved.

A four-month-old female with CDG Ih was reported with moderate hepatomegaly, severe diarrhea, and hypoalbuminemia from protein-losing enteropathy, normal facial features, and normal development. She had decreased levels of factor XI, protein C, and antithrombin III. Three other affected individuals had cardiorespiratory difficulties with lung hypoplasia, a severe hepatointestinal disorder, hypotonia, anemia, and thrombocytopenia. A fifth affected individual was reported with seizures and psychomotor delay, cataracts, osteopenia, and pancytopenia. In the last four patients, early death was reported between the ages of three days and 16 months.

Mutations in the *ALG8* gene (11pter-p15.5) cause CDG Ih.

For patients with suspected CDG Ih, 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:

- Freeze HH. Congenital disorders of glycosylation: CDG-I, CDG-II, and beyond. *Curr Mol Med* 2007; 7:389-396.
- [GeneTests: Congenital Disorders of Glycosylation Overview](#)
- Jaeken J, Matthijs G. Congenital disorders of glycosylation: A rapidly expanding disease family. *Annu Rev Genomics Hum Genet* 2007; 8:261-278.

Genes

[ALG8](#)

Indications

This test is indicated for:

- Confirmation of a clinical/biochemical diagnosis of CDG Ih in an individual in whom sequence analysis was negative
- Carrier testing in adults with a family history of CDG Ih in whom sequence analysis was negative

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™ 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 *ALG8* gene is available and is required before deletion/duplication analysis.
- Analysis of other CDG genes is also available.
- Biochemical carbohydrate deficient transferrin analysis for CDGs is also available.
- [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 couples who are confirmed carriers of mutations. Please contact the laboratory genetic counselor to discuss appropriate testing prior to collecting a prenatal specimen.