

ANTI NUCLEAR ANTIBODY

Orderable - ANA

Turnaround Time: 5 days

Alternate Name(s):

ANA

Specimen:

Adult	Pediatric
5 mL Gold top Vacutainer tube or 6 mL Red top Vacutainer tube	0-2 years: Red 0.5 mL Microtainer 2-10 years: 3 mL Red top tube
EDTA, heparin or citrated plasma will also be accepted. Other fluids will not be accepted.	

Collection Information:

Minimum volume of serum required is 0.5 mL.

Reference Ranges:

Negative <1:80

Interpretive Comments:

The following IFA patterns are reported as either negative or positive with a titre.

Homogenous
DFS
Speckled
Nucleolar
Centromere
Few Nuclear Dots
Multiple Nuclear Dots
Nuclear membrane
Topo-I like
PCNA-like
CENP F-like
Cytoplasmic Fibrillar
Cytoplasmic Lysosome
Cytoplasmic Dense Fine Speckled



Laboratory:
Clinical Immunology Lab



Requisition:
GENERAL LABORATORY
REQUISITION



Method of Analysis:
Indirect
immunofluorescence
assay (IFA) for screening.
Immunoblot for
confirmation.
ELISA for quantification of
anti-dsDNA.



Test Schedule:
Batch analysis



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Cytoplasmic Fine Speckled
Cytoplasmic Golgi-like
Cytoplasmic Reticular
Cytoplasmic Rods and Rings
Mitotic

Depending on which pattern is positive, ANA samples will be followed up by Immunoblot testing with the following:

Chromosome Positive

Anti dsDNA
Anti Nucleosomes
Anti Histones
Anti DFS70
Anti Scl-70
Anti CENP A
Anti CENP B

ENA-Profile Plus 1

Anti nRNP/Sm
Anti Sm
Anti SS-A
Anti SS-B
Anti Ro-52
Anti Scl-70
Anti Jo-1

Liver Profile: (Only performed for ANA that is a part of the AILDLP careset request)

AMA-M2
Anti M2-3E
Anti Ro-52
Anti Sp100
Anti PML
Anti gp210
Anti LKM-1
Anti LC-1
Anti SLA/LP

Immunoblot results will be reported as either negative or positive for specific antibodies as the following.

1+ Weak Positive
2+ Positive
3+ Strong Positive.

Interpretative comments for each of positive specific antibodies will be provided on reports.

The ANA test is a diagnostic aid only. Lower titre positive results may occur in apparently healthy people. Therefore, the results of this test must be interpreted in



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the context of the patient's total clinical presentation.

Positive ANA's are seen in a small percentage of patients with infectious and/or neoplastic diseases. Negative ANA's are seen in a small percentage of autoimmune patients.

Comments:

ANA should not be used to monitor disease activity. Positive ANA other than anti-dsDNA should not be repeated. If ANA was tested positive previously, repeat testing will not be processed.

Anti-dsDNA may correlate with disease activity and positive results can be repeated 1-3 months for active disease and 6-12 months for less active disease. Repeat testing for Anti-dsDNA within 1 month will not be processed.

If ANA is negative or borderline positive (1:80), repeat testing is allowed only if the patient has developed new symptoms of SARD and the minimum retesting interval is limited to 6 months. If ANA was negative or borderline positive, repeat testing within 6 months will not be processed.

Positive Speckled pattern will not be followed for children < 16 years of age.

Specimen Stability:

Store serum or plasma at 2-8°C for up to 14 days.
For longer storage, store at -20°C.