



laboratory
reference
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TO: Laboratory Directors / Scientists / Managers
FROM: Laboratory Reference Centre (LRC)
Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program (HRLMP)
DATE: September 19, 2012
SUBJECT: **Celiac Disease / Gluten Sensitivity Testing at HRLMP**

LRC, HRLMP is committed to providing leading edge diagnostic testing with strong customer support. We also understand the importance of managing costs through test rationalization, utilization improvements and more cost effective testing platforms.

With these points in mind, we have introduced new tests, and changed our protocol and pricing for Celiac and other gastroenterological diagnostic testing. **We encourage you to review your current pricing and methodology and compare them to the LRC price and test recommendations.**

Please find below the features of our current tests and the new price information:

Celiac Screening:

The recommended test for screening for Celiac disease is tissue transglutaminase IgA antibody (tTG IgA) antibody. We are continuing this test. The physician may or may not order total IgA to help with interpretation. **Tests results are supported by interpretative comments.**

Celiac Panel:

The combination of tTG IgA with deamidated gliadin peptide IgG antibody (DGP IgG) obtains the benefit of the established recommended test (tTG IgA) and the benefit of IgG testing with the excellent diagnostic accuracy of the DGP IgG assay. For this reason the LRC/HRLMP Celiac Panel now offers combination of tTG IgA antibody and DGP-IgG antibody measurements. **Tests results are supported by interpretative comments.**

Endomysial Antibody (EMA):

EMA testing is highly specific and sensitive for diagnosing Celiac. **Our test is unique in that it simultaneously detects both IgA EMA antibody and IgG EMA antibody.** Because of this, it has the advantage of diagnosing Celiac disease in IgA deficient subjects. **Tests results are supported by interpretative comments.**

Gliadin Antibodies (Gliadin Panel):

LRC is continuing to offer a test for non-deamidated Gliadin antibodies as the Gliadin antibodies. They are available as both IgA and IgG antigliadin antibodies in the Gliadin Panel. It is not as specific for Celiac as the Celiac Panel, but may be useful in other gastroenterological conditions such as "Gluten Sensitivity". "Gluten Sensitivity" is proposed to include classic Celiac Disease and gluten-reactive patients without mucosal lesions and often clinically difficult to distinguish from patients with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). Positive anti-gliadin antibody is observed in patients suffering from this "Gluten Sensitivity". These patients are often anti-tTG antibody negative and intestinal biopsy is usually normal, and the patients respond to clinical symptoms with a gluten-free diet. **Tests results are supported by interpretative comments.**

Pricing:

ORDER	PRICE
Tissue Transglutaminase IgA Antibody (tTG)	\$30.00
Endomysial Antibody (EMA)	\$35.00
Celiac Panel (tTG-IgA and DGP IgG)	\$55.00
Gliadin Panel (Gliadin IgA and IgG)	\$66.00
Deamidated Gliadin Peptide IgG Ab (DGP)	\$30.00

For further information about Celiac Disease Testing, please contact:

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