

Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis (HP) Serology

Test Name: Hypersensitivity pneumonitis Panel
Test Code: 401749
CPT Codes: 86602 x 2, 86606, 86671 x 5

Description: Hypersensitivity pneumonitis (HP) or extrinsic allergic alveolitis is the term used to describe a group of related pulmonary disorders associated with an intense inflammatory reaction to an inhaled organic antigen. These antigens are often derived from the patient's occupational environment. The wide range of antigens that can be involved has led to a variety of different names for these diseases (e.g. Farmer's Lung, Bagassosis, Pigeon Breeder's Lung, etc.).

IBT Laboratories HP panel includes the following antigens (with CPT Codes):

HP Panel	CPT
<i>Micropolyspora faeni</i> IgG	86602
<i>Thermoactinomyces vulgaris</i> IgG	86602
<i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> IgG	86606
<i>Penicillium Chrysogenum/notatum</i> IgG	86671
<i>Alternaria tenuis/alternata</i> IgG	86671
<i>Trichoderma viride</i> IgG	86671
<i>Aureobasidium pullulans</i> IgG	86671
<i>Phoma betae</i> IgG	86671

Test Method:
 FEIA - Fluorescence Enzyme Immunoassay

Units Reported: mcg/mL of specific IgG

Analytical Sensitivity: (LLOQ) 2.0 mcg/mL

Reference Ranges: A normal upper limit is provided for each antigen. These reference values were obtained by analysis of the antibody responses of an apparently healthy adult population. The 2 standard deviation upper limit is reported.

Specimen Requirement: 1 mL of serum. Sera may be shipped at ambient temperatures.

Comments: The characteristic serological finding in hypersensitivity pneumonitis is the demonstration of serum IgG antibodies to the appropriate inhaled antigen. Many investigators consider this disease to be underdiagnosed and one possible explanation for this is the low sensitivity of the gel diffusion methods. However, it should be noted that the presence of antibody alone, is not diagnostic of HP and elevations of specific antibody are sometimes observed in asymptomatic individuals. Nevertheless, the presence of elevated IgG to one of these antigens can usually be taken to indicate unusual exposure.

Diagnostic Features of HP:

1. Recurrent pneumonitis
2. Symptoms associated with exposure.
3. Diffuse granular infiltrates on X-ray.
4. Restrictive pattern pulmonary function.
5. Serum IgG specific for inhaled antigen.

Related Tests & Panels:

- Bird Fancier's Precipitin Panel I..... #401707
- Bird & Mold Precipitin Panel II..... #401708
- Bird Fancier's Profile Panel III..... #401709
- Other protein antigens & haptens..... Inquire

Since hypersensitivity pneumonitis can be caused by almost any inhaled antigen, including low molecular chemicals (i.e. haptens) bound to tissue proteins, it is not practical to have a single HP panel that tests for all potential antigens. A variety of tests are available for many different allergens. (Please inquire)

For more information, contact
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