

Overview

Useful For

Aids in determining therapeutic strategies for drugs that are metabolized by CYP3A4, including atorvastatin, simvastatin, and lovastatin

Special Instructions

- [Informed Consent for Genetic Testing](#)
- [Pharmacogenomic Associations Tables](#)
- [Multiple Genotype Test List](#)
- [Informed Consent for Genetic Testing \(Spanish\)](#)

Method Name

Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) With Allelic Discrimination Analysis

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Varies

Advisory Information

Testing is available as the single gene assay (this test) or as a part of a focused pharmacogenomics panel, which includes testing for the following genes: *CYPs 1A2, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, 3A4, 3A5, 4F2, SLCO1B1, and VKORC1*. Order PGXFP / Focused Pharmacogenomics Panel if multiple pharmacogenomic genotype testing is desired.

Specimen Required

Multiple genotype tests can be performed on a single specimen after a single extraction. See [Multiple Genotype Test List](#) in Special Instructions for a list of tests that can be ordered together.

Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

Specimen Type: Whole blood

Container/Tube: Lavender top (EDTA)

Specimen Volume: 3 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. Invert several times to mix blood.
2. Send specimen in original tube.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred)/Refrigerated

Specimen Type: Saliva

Patient Preparation: Patient should not eat, drink, smoke, or chew gum 30 minutes prior to collection.

Supplies: Saliva Swab Collection Kit (T786)

Specimen Volume: One swab

Collection Instructions: Collect and send specimen per kit instructions.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient

Specimen Type: DNA

Container/Tube: 2 mL screw top tube

Specimen Volume: 100 mcL (microliters)

Collection Instructions:

1. The preferred volume is 100 mcL at a concentration of 50 ng/mcL.
2. Include concentration and volume on tube.

Specimen Stability Information: Frozen (preferred)/Ambient/Refrigerated

Forms

1. **New York Clients-Informed consent is required.** Document on the request form or electronic order that a copy is on file. The following documents are available in Special Instructions:

-[Informed Consent for Genetic Testing](#) (T576)

-[Informed Consent for Genetic Testing-Spanish](#) (T826)

2. If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send 1 of the following forms with the specimen:

-[Pharmacogenomics Test Request](#) (T797)

-[Cardiovascular Test Request](#) (T724)

-[Neurology Specialty Testing Client Test Request](#) (T732)

Specimen Minimum Volume

Blood: 0.4 mL

Saliva: 1 swab

Reject Due To

All specimens will be evaluated at Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability.

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Varies	Varies		

Clinical and Interpretive

Clinical Information

CYP3A4 is a member of the *CYP3A* family of genes located on chromosome 7. The *CYP3A* subfamily of enzymes is responsible for the metabolism of more than 50% of medications that undergo hepatic metabolism and first-pass metabolism in intestinal epithelial cells, including some lipid-lowering drugs. The *CYP3A4* enzyme activity is highly variable. Interindividual differences in enzyme expression may be due to several factors including: variable homeostatic control mechanisms, disease states that alter homeostasis, up- or down-regulation by environmental stimuli, and genetic variation.(1) It should also be noted that most drugs metabolized by *CYP3A4* are also metabolized by *CYP3A5*, but usually to a lesser extent, so testing of *CYP3A5* may also be relevant and should be determined on a case by case basis. If *CYP3A5* genotyping is needed, order 3A5V / *CYP3A5* Genotype.

One variant, *CYP3A4**22 (c.522-191C>T), has been studied extensively. This variant affects hepatic expression of *CYP3A4* and response to statin drugs. The *CYP3A4**22 allele is associated with reduced *CYP3A4* activity, which may result in a better response to lipid-lowering drugs, such as simvastatin, atorvastatin, or lovastatin. However, reduced *CYP3A4* activity may also be associated with statin-induced myopathy, especially for simvastatin. Studies show that in livers with the wild-type genotype (homozygous C or CC) the *CYP3A4* mRNA level and enzyme activity were 1.7- and 2.5-fold greater than in heterozygous *CYP3A4**22 (CT) and homozygous *CYP3A4**22 (TT) carriers, respectively. In 235 patients taking stable doses of drugs for lipid control, carriers of the T allele required significantly lower statin doses for optimal lipid control than did non-T carriers.(2) These results indicate that *CYP3A4**22 markedly affects expression of *CYP3A4* and could serve as a biomarker for *CYP3A4* metabolizer phenotype. The reported allele frequency of *CYP3A4**22 is 5% to 8% in Caucasians and 4.3% in African American and Chinese populations.

Other alleles have not been as extensively studied in clinical trials but are expected to have similar impacts on statin metabolism and the metabolism of other drugs primarily metabolized by *CYP3A4*.

The following table displays the *CYP3A4* variants detected by this assay, the corresponding star allele, and the effect on *CYP3A4* enzyme activity. Individuals without a detectable *CYP3A4* variant are designated as *CYP3A4**1/*1.

CYP3A4 Allele	cDNA Nucleotide Change	Effect on Enzyme Activity
*1	None (wild type)	Normal activity
*8	389G->A	No activity
*11	1088C->T	Reduced activity
*12	1117C->T	Reduced activity
*13	1247C->T	No activity
*16	554C->G	Minimal activity
*17	566T->C	No activity
*18	878T->C	Reduced activity
*22	522-191C->T	Reduced activity

*26	802C->T	No activity
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Reference Values

An interpretive report will be provided.

Interpretation

An interpretive report will be provided.

The genotype, with associated star alleles, is assigned using standard allelic nomenclature as published by the Pharmacogene Variation (PharmVar) Consortium.(3)

For additional information regarding pharmacogenomic genes and their associated drugs, see the [Pharmacogenomics Associations Tables](#) in Special Instructions. This resource also includes information regarding enzyme inhibitors and inducers, as well as potential alternate drug choices.

Cautions

Rare variants may be present that could lead to false-negative or false-positive results. If results obtained do not match the clinical findings, additional testing could be considered.

Samples may contain donor DNA if obtained from patients who received heterologous blood transfusions or allogeneic blood or marrow transplantation. Results from samples obtained under these circumstances may not accurately reflect the recipient's genotype. For individuals who have received blood transfusions, the genotype usually reverts to that of the recipient within 6 weeks. For individuals who have received allogeneic blood or marrow transplantation, a pretransplant DNA specimen is recommended for testing.

CYP3A4 genetic test results in patients who have undergone liver transplantation may not accurately reflect the patient's *CYP3A4* status.

This test does not detect all variants that result in altered *CYP3A4* activity. Therefore, absence of a detectable variant does not rule out the possibility that a patient has altered *CYP3A4* metabolism due to other *CYP3A4* variants that cannot be detected with this method. Furthermore, when 2 or more variants are identified, the cis-/trans- status (whether the variants are on the same or opposite chromosomes) is not always known.

Drug-drug interactions and drug-metabolite inhibition must be considered.

Drug-metabolite inhibition can occur, resulting in inhibition of *CYP3A4* catalytic activity.

Patients may also develop toxicity problems if liver and kidney function are impaired.

CYP3A4 genotyping should not be ordered for managing patients receiving fluvastatin, rosuvastatin, or pravastatin since these drugs are **not** metabolized appreciably by *CYP3A4*.

Clinical Reference

1. Evans WE, Relling RV: Pharmacogenomics: translating functional genomics into rational therapeutics. *Science* 1999;486:487-491
2. Wang D, Guo Y, Wrighton SA, et al: Intronic polymorphism in *CYP3A4* affects hepatic expression and response to statin drugs. *Pharmacogenomics J* 2011;11:274-286
3. Pharmacogene Variation Consortium database. Accessed 04/27/2018. Available at

<https://www.pharmvar.org/gene/CYP3A4>

4. Lamba JK, Lin YS, Schuetz EG, Thummel KE: Genetic contribution to variable human CYP3A-mediated metabolism. *Adv Drug Deliv Rev* 2002;18:1271-1294

5. Elens L, Becker ML, Haufroid V, et al: Novel CYP3A4 intron 6 single nucleotide polymorphism is associated with simvastatin-mediated cholesterol reduction in the Rotterdam study. *Pharmacogenet Genomics* 2011;21(12):861-866

6. Elens L, Van Schaik RH, Panin N, et al: Effect of a new functional CYP3A4 polymorphism on calcineurin inhibitor dose requirements and trough blood levels in stable renal transplant patients. *Pharmacogenomics* 2011;12(10):1383-1396

7. Clinical Pharmacogenetic Implementation Committee Gene-Drug Table. Accessed 5/3/2017. Available at <https://cpicpgx.org/genes-drugs/>

Performance

Method Description

Genomic DNA is extracted from whole blood. Genotyping for the *CYP3A4* alleles is performed using a PCR-based 5'-nuclease assay. Fluorescently labeled detection probes anneal to the target DNA. PCR is used to amplify the section of DNA that contains the variant. If the detection probe is an exact match to the target DNA, the 5'-nuclease polymerase degrades the probe, the reporter dye is released from the effects of the quencher dye, and a fluorescent signal is detected. Genotypes are assigned based on the allele-specific fluorescent signals that are detected. (User Guide: TaqMan SNP Genotyping Assay, Applied Biosystems Revision A.0 January 2014)

PDF Report

No

Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed

Monday through Friday; 8 a.m.

Analytic Time

3 days (Not reported Saturday or Sunday)

Maximum Laboratory Time

8 days

Specimen Retention Time

Whole Blood/Saliva Swab: 2 weeks; Extracted DNA: 2 months

Performing Laboratory Location

Rochester

Fees and Codes

Fees

- Authorized users can sign in to [Test Prices](#) for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact [Customer Service](#) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their Regional Manager. For assistance, contact [Customer Service](#).

Test Classification

This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. This test has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

81230-CYP3A4

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC Value
3A4V	CYP3A4 Genotype	74007-6

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC Value
BA0118	CYP3A4 Genotype	81139-8
BA0119	CYP3A4 Phenotype	53040-2
BA0120	Interpretation	69047-9
BA0121	Additional Information	48767-8
BA0197	Method	49549-9
BA0198	Disclaimer	62364-5
BA0122	Reviewed by	18771-6