Test Definition: DRV3

Dilute Russell's Viper Venom Time (DRVVT) Confirmation, Plasma (Non-Orderable)

Overview

Useful For

Only orderable as a reflex. For more information see:
ALUPP / Lupus Anticoagulant Profile, Plasma
ALBLD / Bleeding Diathesis Profile, Limited, Plasma
AATHR / Thrombophilia Profile, Plasma and Whole Blood
APROL / Prolonged Clot Time Profile, Plasma
ADIC / Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation/Intravascular Coagulation and Fibrinolysis (DIC/ICF) Profile, Plasma

Confirming the presence or absence of lupus anticoagulants (LAs)

Identifying LAs that do not prolong the activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT)

Evaluating unexplained prolongation of the APTT or prothrombin time clotting tests

Distinguishing LA from a specific coagulation factor inhibitor or coagulation factor deficiencies

Method Name

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Optical Clot-Based

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Plasma Na Cit

Additional Testing Requirements

Serum anticardiolipin antibody testing (CLPMG / Phospholipid [Cardiolipin] Antibodies, IgG and IgM, Serum) and anti-beta-2 glycoprotein I (B2GMG / Beta-2 Glycoprotein 1 Antibodies, IgG and IgM, Serum) antibody testing should also be performed in conjunction with coagulation-based testing for lupus anticoagulants to enhance detection of different

types of antiphospholipid antibodies.

Specimen Required

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Reject Due To

Gross hemolysis	Reject
Gross lipemia	Reject
Gross icterus	Reject

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Plasma Na Cit	Frozen	14 days	

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Lupus anticoagulants (LAs) are immunoglobulins (IgG, IgM, IgA, or a combination of these) of autoimmune type that are specifically directed against antigenic complexes of negatively charged phospholipids (such as phosphatidylserine or phosphatidylethanolamine) and coagulation-related proteins (such as beta-2-glycoprotein I) or clotting factors (including prothrombin [factor II] or factor X), and which cause prolongation of phospholipid-dependent clotting time tests due to inhibition.

Lupus anticoagulants are functionally and clinically distinct members of a broader group of antiphospholipid autoantibodies that include immunologically detectable anticardiolipin antibodies or antibodies against other phospholipid-protein complexes. LAs interfere with specific coagulation factor-phospholipid interactions, typically causing prolongation of 1 or more phospholipid-dependent clotting time tests (eg, activated partial thromboplastin time [APTT], dilute Russell's viper venom time [DRVVT]) due to inhibition. This characteristic in vitro inhibition can be overcome by addition of excess phospholipid.

Because of the heterogeneous nature of LA antibodies, no single coagulation test can identify or exclude all LAs. Currently, the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis and the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) recommend testing for LA with at least 2 phospholipid-dependent clotting time assays based on different coagulation pathways and principles (eg, lupus-sensitive APTT and DRVVT).

In addition, given the potential for false-positive results in patients on anticoagulants, a profile or panel of coagulation tests is performed, including the prothrombin time (PT), APTT, thrombin time (TT), and DRVVT. If the PT, APTT, and/or DRVVT are prolonged, additional testing may include mixing tests with normal plasma (to evaluate for inhibition) and the use of excess phospholipid in appropriate assay systems to evaluate for phospholipid-dependent inhibition. Additional reflexive testing helps determine presence or absence of anticoagulants and/or inhibitors to other factors.

The diagnosis of LA requires performance and interpretation of complex coagulation testing, as well as correlation with available clinical information, including evidence of persistence of LA over time (> or =12 weeks).

The venom obtained from Russell's viper *(Vipera russelli)* contains enzymes that directly activate coagulation factors V and X, bypassing the activation of factors VII, VIII, IX, XI, and XII, and therefore, the effect of deficiencies or inhibitors of these factors. Diluting the phospholipid necessary for the clotting factor interactions increases the sensitivity to LA and the likelihood of identifying a phospholipid-dependent inhibitor that may not be detected by other coagulation tests with a higher phospholipid content (eg, LA-insensitive APTT reagents).

The DRVVT screen ratio test is one of several available in vitro tests that may be used to screen and confirm or exclude the presence of LA. DRVVT testing is used in conjunction with other appropriate coagulation tests (reflexive testing panels) to assist in detection and confirmation of LA.

The DRVVT may be abnormally prolonged (DRVVT screen ratio > or =1.20) by LA as well as coagulation factor deficiencies, anticoagulant effects, or other types of coagulation factor inhibitors.

Specimens with abnormal results (DRVVT screen ratio > or =1.20) are subjected to reflexive testing (see Testing Algorithm). With the reflexive testing algorithm, the sensitivity of DRVVT testing for LA diagnosis is approximately 65% to 70%, and the specificity is 95% or higher.

Although LAs cause prolonged clotting times in vitro, there is a strong association with thrombosis risk. However, not all patients with persisting LAs develop thrombosis.

Reference Values

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<1.20
Normal ranges for children: Not clearly established but similar to normal ranges for adults, except for newborn infants whose results may not reach adult values until age 3 to 6 months.

Interpretation

A normal dilute Russell's viper venom time (DRVVT) screen ratio (<1.20) indicates that lupus anticoagulant (LA) is not present or not detectable by this method (but might be detected with other methods).

An abnormal DRVVT screen ratio (DRVVT screen ratio >1.20) may suggest presence of LA, however, other possibilities include:
-Deficiencies or dysfunction of factors I (fibrinogen), II, V, or X, congenital or acquired
-Inhibitors of factor V, or occasionally by inhibitors of factor VIII, or other specific or nonspecific inhibitors
-Anticoagulation therapy effects (see Cautions)

Further evaluation consists of performing mixing studies with an equal volume of normal pooled plasma (DRVVT 1:1 mix) to investigate the possibility of coagulation factor deficiency (suggested by DRVVT mix ratio <1.20) and to evaluate inhibition (suggested by DRVVT mix ratio > or =1.20) and mixing patient plasma with DRVVT reagent enriched in phospholipid (DRVVT confirmatory reagent) (DRVVT mix and DRVVT confirmation ratios).

Possible combinations of results include the following:
-DRVVT screen ratio > or =1.20, DRVVT mix ratio <1.20, and DRVVT confirmation ratio <1.20:
No evidence of LA. These data may reflect anticoagulation therapy effects or other (congenital or acquired) coagulopathy.

-DRVVT screen ratio > or =1.20, DRVVT mix ratio > or =1.20, and DRVVT confirmation ratio <1.20:
The prolonged and inhibited DRVVT (DRVVT screen and mix ratios) may reflect presence of a specific factor inhibitor (eg, factor V inhibitor), anticoagulation therapy effects or other nonspecific inhibitors as can be seen with monoclonal protein disorders, lymphoproliferative disease etc. Although LA cannot be conclusively excluded, the DRVVT confirmation ratio of < or =1.20 makes this less likely.

-DRVVT screen ratio > or =1.20, DRVVT mix ratio <1.20, and DRVVT confirmation ratio > or =1.20:
Although mixing study of the prolonged DRVVT screen and mix ratios provides no evidence of inhibition, additional phospholipid shortens the clotting time (DRVVT confirmation ratio), suggesting presence of LA.

-DRVVT screen ratio > or =1.20, DRVVT mix ratio > or =1.20, and DRVVT confirmation ratio > or =1.20:
The data are consistent with presence of LA, provided anticoagulant effect can be excluded (see Cautions).

Additional tests to evaluate abnormal DRVVT results include activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT), prothrombin time (PT), and thrombin time. Abnormalities observed with these tests may be further evaluated with normal plasma mixing studies, the platelet neutralization procedure (for APTT), and coagulation factor assays may sometimes be needed.

Dilute Russell's viper venom time assays ordered as a single, stand-alone test should be interpreted within patient clinical context and close attention to medication use by patient (see Cautions).

Cautions

Residual platelets in frozen-thawed plasma can decrease sensitivity and specificity of lupus anticoagulants (LAs) testing (false-negative results). Specimens that are to be frozen before testing must be centrifuged twice to remove as many of the platelets as possible before freezing.

Anticoagulation therapy effects such as warfarin (especially when the effect is supratherapeutic), excess heparin, direct

thrombin inhibitors (eg, dabigatran [Pradaxa]), argatroban [Ancova], bivalirudin [Angiomax]), direct factor Xa inhibitors (eg, rivaroxaban [Xarelto], apixaban [Eliquis], edoxaban [Savaysa]) may result in a false-positive assay performance for LA. Clinical correlation and repeat testing remote (>1 week) from anticoagulation therapy is suggested.

Although the dilute Russell's viper venom time (DRVVT) reagents contain a heparin inhibitor (Polybrene) that is sufficient for neutralization of heparin (up to 1-2 U/mL), the results may not necessarily represent what would occur if no heparin were present in the specimen. Therefore, DRVVT results from heparinized plasma should be interpreted with caution.

Excess heparin or inhibitors of factors V or VIII may cause false-positive results of LA testing, depending on the types of coagulation testing performed.

Lupus anticoagulant diagnosis does not have definite predictive value for associated clinical complications such as thromboembolic problems or fetal loss.

The DRVVT test will not detect all LAs. Some LAs may only be detectable by other tests such as the Hexagonal LA, activated partial thromboplastin time, platelet neutralization procedure, or other methods.

Persistence of LA over time (12 weeks or more between positive testing results) is a clinically important criterion for the antiphospholipid antibody syndrome diagnosis.

Clinical Reference

1. Proven A, Bartlett RP, Moder KG, et al. Clinical importance of positive test results for lupus anticoagulant and anticardiolipin antibodies. Mayo Clin Proc. 2004;79(4):467-475
2. Gastineau DA, Kazmier FJ, Nichols WL, Bowie EJ. Lupus anticoagulant: an analysis of the clinical and laboratory features of 219 cases. Am J Hematol. 1985;19(3):265-275
3. Brandt JT, Triplett DA, Alving B, Sharrer I. Criteria for the diagnosis of lupus anticoagulant: an update. On behalf of the Subcommittee on Lupus Anticoagulant/Antiphospholipid Antibody of the Scientific and Standardisation Committee of the ISTH. Thromb Haemost. 1995;74(4);1185-1190
4. Arnout J, Vermylen J. Current status and implications of autoimmune antiphospholipid antibodies in relation to thrombotic disease. J Thromb Haemost. 2003;1(5):931-942
5. Pengo V, Tripodi A, Reber G, et al. Update of the guidelines for lupus anticoagulant detection. Subcommittee on Lupus Anticoagulant/Antiphospholipid Antibody of the Scientific and Standardisation Committee of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis. J Thromb Haemost. 2009;7:1737-1740. doi:10.1111/j.1538-7836.2009.03555.x
6. CLSI Laboratory Testing for Lupus Anticoagulant; Approved Guideline. CLSI document H60-A. Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute; 2014
7. Favaloro EJ, Lippi G. eds. Hemostasis and Thrombosis, Methods and Protocols. Humana Press; 2017

Performance

Method Description

The dilute Russell viper venom time (DRVVT) confirmation assay is performed on the Instrumentation Laboratory ACL TOP. The assay is performed by incubating patient plasma for a specified time, then combining it with a DRVVT confirm

reagent containing Russell viper venom, excess phospholipids, antiheparin agents, calcium, buffers, and stabilizers to trigger the coagulation process. The time to clot formation is measured optically using a wavelength of 671 nm.

The DRVVT confirmation is converted to a ratio by dividing the DRVVT screen clotting time by the DRVVT confirmation clotting time.(Package insert: CRYOcheck LA SURE dRVVT Confirmatory Reagent. Precision BioLogic; 05/2023)

PDF Report
No

Day(s) Performed
Monday through Friday

Report Available
2 to 5 days

Specimen Retention Time
7 days

Performing Laboratory Location
Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus

Fees & 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 account representative. For assistance, contact Customer Service.

Test Classification
This test has been cleared, approved, or is exempt by the US Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

CPT Code Information
85613

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
DRV3	DRVVT Confirmation	50410-0

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
RVCR3	DRVVT Confirm Ratio	50410-0