

Dear Colleague,

03/04/2024

Update 03/04/24 - IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies (samples referred via Edinburgh for testing)

Following on from the communications below we can confirm that Edinburgh have now started to receive both IA2 and ZNT8 antibody results from Exeter. Consequently results for NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde patients will shortly be available via both TrakCare and Clinical Portal.

It should be noted that while Edinburgh and Exeter use the same assays to measure IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies there are subtle differences between the reference ranges used by each laboratory. Additionally, if the ZNT8 antibody result is negative, Exeter report the result as NEGATIVE i.e. a quantitative value is ONLY provided if the patient is positive for ZNT8 antibodies as detailed within the table below:

| | | Reference range ***EXETER*** | Reference range ***Edinburgh*** |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| IA-2 antibodies (U/mL) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <7.5 = Negative ≥7.5 = Positive | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <7.5 = negative 7.6 - 14.9 = equivocal 14.9 = strong positive |
| ZnT8 antibodies (U/mL) | Age <30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < 65 = Negative. Note all negative result reported as NEGATIVE ≥65 = Positive * ONLY positive results reported quantitatively * | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <15 = negative 15 - 64.9 = equivocal, >64.9 = weak positive, >125.9 = strong positive * All results reported quantitatively* |
| ZnT8 antibodies (U/mL) | Age ≥ 30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < 10 = Negative. Note all negative result reported as NEGATIVE ≥10 = Positive * ONLY positive results reported quantitatively * | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <15 = negative 15 - 19.9 = weak positive > 19.9 = strong positive * All results reported quantitatively * |

Impact on ZNT8 antibody reports - Unfortunately our local laboratory computer system cannot accept both quantitative and qualitative results for ZNT8 antibodies. This means that if an Exeter result is negative for ZNT8 antibodies it will be entered as NA alongside an interpretative comment stating that the result is negative. We appreciate that this is not ideal but it is important that while we temporarily receive results from Exeter that we enter them as per the Exeter report. During this period we recommend viewing ZNT8 antibody results via TrakCare as this displays the result in an 'easy to read' format as illustrated by the example below:

| Test Item | Other Flags | Value | Units | Normal Values | Comments |
|-----------|-------------|-------|-------|---------------|----------|
| ZnT8 Ab | | NA | u/mL | | Negative |

Set Comments
 ZNT8 antibody result = NEGATIVE
 Positivity threshold: 65 U/mL or above (Age < 30 years).
 This is based on 97.5 centile of 1650 non diabetic subjects.
 *** NOTE: Analysed at Department of Blood Sciences, Exeter ***

For any enquires regarding diabetic antibodies please continue to contact the Duty Immunologist either by email (immunology.labs@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) or by telephone (0141 347 8872 or internal extension 68872).

We would be grateful if you could share this letter with colleagues and contact us if you have any further questions.

Best wishes,



Lauren Hennessy
 Consultant Clinical Scientist
 Clinical Lead for Immunology & Neuroimmunology Laboratory

Dear Colleague,

09/02/2024

Update 09/02/24 - IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies (samples referred to Edinburgh for testing)

Following on from the communication below we have had further updates from Edinburgh regarding delays to turnaround times for IA2 and ZnT8 antibodies. All samples will be sent to Exeter, however they can only accept samples via the electronic ordering system NPEX. Edinburgh are currently setting this up with Exeter but it will add to the delay and unfortunately we are expecting around a 2-3 month TAT for results. Samples are being stored appropriately in Edinburgh until they are able to forward on to Exeter.

We will continue to run GAD antibodies in house and TAT for this assay will not be affected. We have also explored the option of sending directly to Exeter but we would also need to set up NPEX which would require local IT support, therefore this would not help to reduce the anticipated delay.

Please accept our apologies for these delays and be assured we will work closely with Edinburgh to try to minimise the disruption to the service.

Kind Regards,



Sylvia Arthur
Immunology & Neuroimmunology Laboratory Manager

Dear Colleague,

01/02/2024

IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies (samples referred to Edinburgh for testing)

Edinburgh have contacted us to inform us that the instrument they use for IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies is beyond repair and that they will not have a replacement instrument for several months. Consequently they are unable to test for IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies and plan to send these requests to a referral laboratory in England.

Unfortunately, this means that there will be a delay to the turnaround time for both IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies. We perform the GAD antibodies locally (within our Glasgow lab) so the turnaround time of these will remain unaffected.

On a separate note I'm sure you will have noticed that TrakCare has now been updated to ensure that 2 patient labels (with barcodes) are now produced for diabetic antibody requests. As before please ensure that 2 samples are always taken for diabetic antibodies; with the 2 labels this now reduces confusion for phlebotomy during sample collection. Unfortunately if we do not receive 2 samples it is very likely that we will have insufficient serum to perform GAD, IA2 and ZNT8 antibodies.

For any enquires regarding diabetic antibodies please continue to contact the Duty Immunologist either by email (immunology.labs@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) or by telephone (0141 347 8872 or internal extension 68872).

We would be grateful if you could share this letter with colleagues and contact us if you have any further questions.

Best wishes,



Lauren Hennessy
Consultant Clinical Scientist
Clinical Lead for Immunology & Neuroimmunology Laboratory