



CALPROTECTIN

Calprotectin is a calcium-binding neutrophil-derived protein used to identify and differentiate between IBS and IBD. It is very resistant to bacterial degradation in the gut. Calprotectin is a sensitive, stable marker that is unaffected by medications, dietary supplements or enzymatic degradation. Calprotectin forms part of comprehensive digestive stool analysis (CDSA) testing, an advanced non-invasive diagnostic tool for assessing gastrointestinal function.

Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Confusion often exists between Irritable bowel Syndrome (IBS) and irritable bowel Disease (IBD).

IBD is an autoimmune disease associated with allergic disorders, and pathological infestations. In IBD, Immune dysregulation elicits white cell inflammatory response resulting in attack of immune system and severe inflammation. Food intake in this case is mistaken by the immune system as allergenic or foreign to the body.

Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitis are the most common forms of IBD. Other forms of IBD may include Microscopic colitis, Diverticulitis and colitis, Collagenous colitis, Lymphocytic colitis and Behçet's disease.

SYMPTOMS OF CROHN'S DISEASE	SYMPTOMS OF ULCERATIVE COLITIS
Persistent diarrhoea	Diarrhoea
Abdominal pain	Abdominal pain
Fatigue	Fatigue
Occasional rectal bleeding	Blood stool
Fever	Anaemia

Crohn's disease may affect any part of the GI tract from the mouth to the anus, although it's most often found at the end of the small intestine and the beginning of the colon. Crohn's Disease affects the GI tract, skin, eyes, joints, and liver. Scarring of intestinal walls can block movement leading to ulceration and fistulas. Crohn's disease can also increase the risk for colon cancer, which is why patients must have regular colonoscopies.

Calprotectin reflects:

- Reflects the flux of leukocytes into the intestinal lumen
- Is released upon activation and degranulation of neutrophils
- Helps differentiate between IBS and active IBD
- Predicts relapse in patients with IBD
- Assists in selecting patients for endoscopy
- assists in monitoring response to treatment

SYMPTOMS & CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH ELEVATED CALPROTECTIN

Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Infection

NSAID use

Polyps

Adenomas

Colorectal cancer

Chronic diarrhoea, secondary to cow's milk allergy or multiple food sensitivities

Calprotectin can assist physicians develop earlier, more effective preventive interventions, improve the timing and precision of treatments, and reduce the risk of clinical relapse in certain groups of patients. It will also allow physicians to better evaluate and document the medical necessity for more invasive procedures, such as colonoscopy or endoscopy. High levels of Calprotectin are indicative of significant inflammation in the gastrointestinal tract.

The results of calprotectin testing provide information on:

- Abdominal symptoms
- Distinguish between IBD and IBS
- Selection for endoscopy
- Determine disease activity
- Risk of relapse in IBD
- Monitor IBD treatment response

CALPROTECTIN (stool) [Test code: 2001]

- ❖ Calprotectin

Other calprotectin tests available

- **CDSA Level 3+ [2006]:** Macroscopic & Microscopic Description; Digestive, Absorption & Metabolic markers; Inflammation markers; Tumour/Ulcer markers; Beneficial & other Bacteria; Yeasts; Parasites (visual detection) & Sensitivities
- **CDSA Level 4+ [2008]:** Macroscopic & Microscopic Description; Digestive, Absorption & Metabolic markers; Inflammation markers; Tumour/Ulcer markers; Beneficial & other Bacteria; Yeasts; Parasites (visual & chemical EIA detection) & Sensitivities

How to order a test kit:

To order a test kit simply request the test name or test code on a NutriPATH request form test code and have the patient phone NutriPATH Customer Service on 1300 688 522.



Phone 1300 688 522 for further details
www.nutripath.com.au