



ANAEMIA AUTOIMMUNITY (VIT B12) - Test Code 6114



Turnaround Time: 7 business days



Specimen Type: 1x SST
Blood

Description

Intrinsic Factor (IF) antibodies and Gastric Parietal Cell (GPC) antibodies are autoantibodies that target the gastric mucosa and are often associated with autoimmune conditions, particularly pernicious anaemia and other forms of autoimmune gastritis (Esposito et al., 2022). IF is a glycoprotein produced by parietal cells in the stomach and is essential for the absorption of vitamin B12 in the intestine (Esposito et al., 2022).

IF antibodies mistakenly attack IF, leading to impaired absorption of vitamin B12. This deficiency can result in pernicious anaemia and poor neurological function (Esposito et al., 2022). GPC antibodies are autoantibodies that target the parietal cells of the stomach, which produce intrinsic factor as well as gastric acid (Esposito et al., 2022). The presence of GPC antibodies in the blood suggests autoimmune gastritis, which can lead to atrophy of the gastric mucosa and decreased production of both intrinsic factor and hydrochloric acid (Esposito et al., 2022). Like IF antibodies, GPC antibodies can also be associated with vitamin B12 deficiency and pernicious anaemia. The detection of these antibodies can help in diagnosing autoimmune conditions affecting the stomach and assist in monitoring the progression of these diseases.

Whats included?

- Intrinsic Factor Antibodies (IF Abs)
- Gastric Parietal Cell Antibodies (GPC Abs)

Conditions and Symptoms

- Pernicious Anaemia
- Fatigue
- Inflamed and smooth tongue
- Tingling or numbness in hands and feet
- Memory loss and confusion
- Depression and irritability
- Blurred or impaired vision
- Abdominal pain and bloating

Complementary Testing

- Complete Microbiome Mapping (Test code 2206)
- Iron Studies (Test code 6009)

Accreditations Include:

- NATA ISO 15189 – Requirements for Quality and Competence in Medical Laboratories*
- CLIA – Clinical Laboratories Improvement Amendments*



info@nutripath.com.au



1300 688 522



www.nutripath.com.au

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*See NATA and CLIA website for further details