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**TEST: ANTI-ENA (ANTI-SM AND RNP) & ANTI-SJÖGRENS ANTIBODIES (ANTI-SSA AND ANTI-SSB)**

**PRINCIPLE:**

Each of the various rheumatic diseases generally exhibits a particular ANA profile. Hence, identification of the specificity of a patient's antinuclear antibodies can be extremely useful in the differential diagnosis of these diseases. Sm is a highly specific serological marker found in 20-30% of patients with SLE. Antibodies to RNP are frequently detected in several of the rheumatic diseases; however, the presence of a high titer response to this antigen is usually considered diagnostic of Mixed Connective Tissue Disease (MCTD). Antibodies to SS-A/Ro and SS-B/La are observed with the highest frequency in Sjögren's Syndrome, although these antigen specificities are also found in a significant percentage of patients with SLE. Furthermore, there has been a recent association between SS-A/Ro antibodies and congenital fetal heart block. In this test autoantibodies to RNP, Sm, SSA/Ro and SS-B/La are detected by ELISA.

**SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:**

Collect one 10 ml red top blood collection tube by standard venipuncture techniques. Do not draw specimen in tubes containing any preservative or anticoagulant. The serum should be separated from the clot; spin clotted blood at 1600 rpm for 10 minutes. Serum can be stored at room temperature for up to 8 hours or can be stored at 2-8°C for up to 48 hours. Store at -20°C or below if testing is delayed further.

Send frozen serum on dry ice. Do not freeze in self-defrosting freezers. Avoid repeated freeze-thawing. Microbially contaminated, heat-treated, hemolyzed, lipemic or specimens containing visible particulate should not be used. Minimum volume needed is 100 µl of serum.

**METHOD:**

Enzyme Linked Immunoassay (ELISA).

**REFERENCES:**

Condemni, J.J. The Autoimmune Diseases. JAMA 1987; 258: 2920-2929.

**Normal Range: Negative.**

**Positive results for each ENA antigen are indicated separately.**

**Anti-ENA includes Sm and RNP**

**Anti-Sjögrens includes SSA and SSB**

**Turnaround Time: 7-10 business days**