

TEST OBSOLETE

NOTIFICATION DATE: May 26, 2009

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 9, 2009

**ACETYLCHOLINE RECEPTOR (MUSCLE AChR) BLOCKING
ANTIBODIES, SERUM
TEST #83379**

EXPLANATION: Acetylcholine Receptor (AChR) Blocking Antibody testing will become obsolete on July 9, 2009. AChR blocking antibodies represent a minority of the AChR antibodies and usually occur in association with AChR binding antibodies and are very rarely present without elevated AChR modulating antibodies. The AChR Modulating antibodies test, as routinely performed in our laboratory, detects both AChR Modulating antibodies and AChR Blocking antibodies. The separate measurement of AChR Blocking antibodies offers no information that additionally informs the diagnosis and management of myasthenia gravis (MG). Therefore, Mayo Medical Laboratories will cease performing selective testing for AChR Blocking antibodies in an effort to provide more cost-effective MG testing.

MML ORDERABLE CODES WITH REPORTING CHANGE:

Test # 83371 - Myasthenia Gravis (MG) Evaluation, Pediatric

Test # 83370 - Myasthenia Gravis (MG) Evaluation, Adult

Test # 83372 - Myasthenia Gravis (MG) Evaluation, Thymoma

Test #83369 - Myasthenia Gravis (MG)/Lambert-Eaton Syndrome (LES) Evaluation

Test #83380 - Paraneoplastic Autoantibody Evaluation, Serum

Test #84300 - Neuroimmunology Antibody Follow-up, Serum

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE TEST:

AChR Binding Antibodies (test# 8338) is the suggested test for monitoring disease progression in Myasthenia Gravis (MG) or response to immunotherapy, while one of the Myasthenia Gravis Evaluations listed above are recommended for the initial evaluation of patients.

QUESTIONS: Contact your Mayo Medical Laboratories' Regional Manager
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