

23rd December 2020

Re: Change in preferred first-line method of testing for Voltage Gated Potassium Channel complex Antibodies (LGI1 and CASPR2)

Dear Colleague,

We have been notified by our referral laboratory that they are changing their recommendations regarding Voltage Gated Potassium Channel antibody test (VPCA):

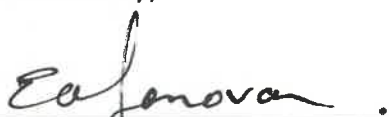
The Oxford Neuroimmunology service currently offers Voltage Gated Potassium Channel Complex (VGKC) antibody testing via two methodologies – Radioimmunoprecipitation (RIA) of rabbit brain derived protein isolate, bound to dendrotoxin, or indirect immunofluorescence (IIF) against transfected cell lines expressing specifically LGI1 or CASPR2. Although both techniques can be requested as a first line test by a user, they formerly recommended initial screening by the RIA technique, with any positive or equivocal results confirmed for LGI1 or CASPR2 positivity using IIF.

Following clinical studies they have altered their VGKC antibody investigation workflow and are now recommending that all VGKC antibody investigations are performed with LGI1/CASPR2 testing via IIF as a first line test. **They will continue to offer VGKC antibody by RIA test but all VGKC antibody test requests that are received will be tested by default for LGI1/CASPR2 (IIF) unless testing by RIA is specifically requested.**

Turnaround times and prices will not be affected by this change.

If you would like additional information regarding this test please do not hesitate to contact us on 1800 303 349 or email us at info@medlabpathology.ie.

Yours sincerely,



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