Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis (ABPA) is a severe lung disease resulting from a hypersensitivity reaction to spores of aspergillus fumigatus. It is present in a small percentage of asthmatics and is particularly prevalent in CF patients (7-10%). Our Division of Allergy and Immunology at Saint Louis University School of Medicine has had an interest in ABPA for more than 30 years and we have published extensively on both basic and clinical aspects of the disease.

Our laboratory has recently received CLIA approval and we are now able to offer a comprehensive panel of tests to help you make the diagnosis of ABPA. Precipitins are determined by Ouchterlony gel diffusion. Antibody levels are determined by UniCAP.

- Total serum IgE
  - a level >1,000 IU/ml is suggestive of ABPA
- Serum precipitins to aspergillus
  - generally positive in ABPA
- Specific IgE and IgG to aspergillus
  - both generally elevated in ABPA

In addition, we can offer tissue typing for your patients. Our studies indicate that tissue types HLA-DR 2 & 5 can be predisposing factors for ABPA, while it appears that HLA-DQ2 is protective.

**Specimen Handling**

The ABPA Diagnostic Laboratory can provide instruction for your staff on collection of appropriate samples.

Samples should be delivered between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to:

Div. of Allergy & Immunology Laboratory  
R208 Doisy Hall  
Saint Louis University School of Medicine  
1402 S. Grand Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63104

**Results**

Reports are mailed or faxed to the doctor’s office or can be called or emailed to the physician if requested. Our professional staff is available for consultation for patient management questions and interpretation of results.

**For More Information**

Regarding services, charges, or other technical information, contact the laboratory supervisor at (314) 977-8825.
Serology: 1.5 ml serum (separated from a 10 ml red top tube).

Tissue typing: 5 ml EDTA anticoagulated blood (purple top tube).

Serum and EDTA blood should be frozen until transported. If not sending overnight, they should be kept on ice in transit.

The laboratory is open to accept samples from 8:30 – 5:00 pm CT, Monday – Friday. Samples must be packed in accordance with IATA packing regulations for diagnostic specimen. Turnaround time is variable, depending on demand.

Samples must be accompanied by an information sheet listing the referring physician, pertinent clinical information, and addresses for test results and invoices.
Faculty and Staff

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The Division of Allergy and Immunology at Saint Louis University School of Medicine has over 30 years of clinical and research interest in ABPA. The following are a few selected references from our Division.


