

UCLA DIAGNOSTIC MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY LABORATORY
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Paternity Testing

↑CPT

One child: 83891 (x3); 84311 (x3); 83900 (x6); 83909 (x6); 83901 (x6); 83912

Additional sibling or alleged father: 83891; 84311; 83900 (x2); 83901 (x2); 83909 (x2)

No mother specimen: 83891 (x2); 84311 (x2); 83900 (x6); 83909 (x6); 83912

↑Related Information

↑Synonyms

Analysis for Parentage Evaluation; DNA Analysis for Parentage Evaluation; Genetic Identification by DNA Fingerprinting; Parentage Studies; Parentage Testing; Paternity Testing by DNA Testing

↑Test Includes

Clarify the relationships between individuals

↑Laboratory

Molecular Pathology

↑Availability

Monday-Friday, 0700-1700

↑Turnaround Time

3-28 days after receipt of all specimens

↑Specimen

Whole blood, tissue, paraffin blocks

↑Volume

4 mL blood; >0.2 g tissue

↑Container

Lavender top (EDTA) tube for blood, tissue keep at -70°C

↑Storage Instructions

All specimens should be sent to the Laboratory immediately after collection, preferably by overnight delivery. Blood should be stored refrigerated, never frozen. Tissue should be stored frozen or refrigerated in saline and shipped to the Laboratory within 48 hours.

↑Patient Preparation

Patient should receive no transfusions 90 days prior to testing, and should be at least 3 weeks old.

↑Causes for Rejection

If tissue specimen thaws out during transport to the Laboratory or before shipping, DNA may not be obtained from the specimen; if <0.1 g of tissue is sent to the laboratory, it may not yield enough DNA for analysis; blood samples frozen and thawed will yield low quality DNA; specimens inadequately identified. Prenatal specimens (amniocentesis, CVS) will not be accepted for this test, nor will requests for laboratory evidence to be used in court or legal proceedings. Requests to establish genetic relationships other than parent-child cannot be accepted.

↑Reference Range

Alleged father excluded; alleged father not excluded

↑Use

The analysis of highly polymorphic regions of human DNA can clarify the relationships between individuals and establish parentage in cases under question. It is a far more powerful method for this purpose than comparison of blood groups and other analytes used in the past.

NOTE: Paternity testing is offered as a medical genetics service for personal and clinical information only. We do not perform this test for legal purposes or representation in court, nor do we perform forensic DNA testing.

↑ Limitations

Failure to obtain DNA from the blood, tissue, or cultured cells due to inappropriate shipping or processing; absolute proof of paternity can never be established even by this method, but very high probabilities of paternity (>99.9%) are commonly obtained

↑ Methodology

Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) analysis of polymorphic short tandem repeats

↑ Additional Information

The genetic material of humans is highly polymorphic, and an individual's genotype represents a unique pattern which determines that person's identity and heredity. The only exception to this rule is identical twins, since they are derived from a single fertilized egg and hence have the same DNA profile. As a general rule, DNA is constant in all tissues of the body. DNA isolated from any specimen from an individual will be identical, which can prove to be very valuable in forensic evidence. DNA typing provides a valuable tool for establishing family relationships. PCR tests using a panel of DNA primers specific for several polymorphic DNA regions can produce a composite profile which is unique to an individual and can be traced through families to establish relationships. The laboratory report, in the form of a confidential letter, explains in detail all the polymorphic DNA markers used, the results (match or mismatch) with each, and the cumulative probability of paternity or nonpaternity. The same methodology can be used to establish maternity or nonmaternity in certain situations.
