

TSI – Thyroid Stimulating Immunoglobulins replaces TSH Receptor Antibodies Test

Starting on 15.08.2016, the test for Thyroid Stimulating Immunoglobulins (TSI) will replace the TSH Receptor Antibody test. This test shows significantly increased specificity (99.7%) with very good sensitivity (98.3%) in the differential diagnosis of Graves' disease. This reduces the number of false positive results.

Detecting autoantibodies against the TSH receptor is important in diagnosing Graves' disease (Basedow's disease), an autoimmune disease of the thyroid gland. This form of hyperthyroidism is closely associated with the occurrence of specific antibodies, which mimic the action of TSH and lead to a sustained stimulation of the synthesis and secretion of peripheral thyroid hormones. It has been found that the Thyroid Stimulating Immunoglobulins (TSI) are specific for Graves' disease, whereas the Thyroid Blocking Immunoglobulins (TBI) are not. The TSH Receptor Antibodies test included both antibody types (TSI and TBI), which often may have led to results unspecific for Graves' disease.

The new assay detects only the TSI, making it highly specific for diagnosing Graves' disease. TSI are found in over 90% of affected patients.

Material: 1 ml serum

Method: CLIA (Siemens Immulite)

Turnaround time: 5-7 days

Reference: DeGroot LJ. Diagnosis and Treatment of Graves' Disease. [Updated

2012 Feb 13]. In: De Groot LJ, Chrousos G, Dungan K, et al., editors. Endotext [Internet]. South Dartmouth (MA): MDText.com, Inc.; 2000-.

Please note that the TSH receptor antibody test by FIA (Kryptor/Brahms) is available for follow-ups or comparisons until the end of the year on special request only.

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