

BC Neuroimmunology offers the following tests:

Accredited tests covered under the British Columbia Medical Services Plan (MSP):

- [Acetylcholine receptor antibodies \(AChR Ab; RIPA\)](#)
- [Muscle-specific tyrosine kinase \(MuSK\) antibodies](#)
- [Voltage-gated calcium channel \(VGCC\) antibodies](#)

Other accredited tests:

- [Clustered acetylcholine receptor antibodies \(AChR Ab; cell-based assay\)](#)
- [Aquaporin-4 \(AQP4\) antibodies](#)
- [Myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein \(MOG\) antibodies](#)
- [Autoimmune encephalitis panel \(NMDAR, GABAB, DPPX, LGI1, CASPR2, & AMPAR\)](#)
- [Anti-glutamate receptor \(type NMDA\) antibodies](#)
- [Anti-voltage-gated potassium channel \(VGKC\) associated protein \(LGI1 & CASPR2\) antibodies](#)
- [Anti-GABAB antibodies](#)
- [Anti-DPPX antibodies](#)
- [Paraneoplastic \(neuronal\) antibody panel \(immunoblot\)](#)
- [Chronic inflammatory demyelinating Polyneuropathy \(CIDP\) antibody panel](#)
- [Phosphorylated-tau-217 \(pTau217\)](#)

Referred laboratory tests:

- [Apolipoprotein E \(APOE\) genotyping](#)
- [Amyloid-beta 42/40 \(A \$\beta\$ 42/40\)](#)
- [Neurofilament-Light Chain \(NfL\)](#)
- [Phosphorylated-tau-181 \(pTau181\)](#)
- [Total tau \(tTau\)](#)
- [Glial fibrillary acidic protein \(GFAP\)](#)

Tests being offered for research use only:

- [Low-density Lipoprotein Receptor-related Protein 4 Antibodies \(LRP4 Ab\)](#)

Please note that as of April 1, 2022, the test for **neutralizing antibodies (NAbs) to interferon-beta** is no longer being offered by our laboratory.

Name of test	<i>Acetylcholine receptor antibodies</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	AchR Ab, anti-AchR Ab, Myasthenia gravis (MG) autoantibodies
BC MSP Fee code	91020 (Qualitative), 91021 (Quantitative; upon positive result of qualitative test)
Methodology	In-house radioimmunoprecipitation assay (RIA/RIPA), binding and blocking assays
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> grossly hemolyzed and/or grossly lipemic serum</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p>Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	2 days to 3 weeks
Reference Values	<p>Negative</p> <p>Positives are reported with a quantitative result</p>
Additional Information	<p>Please indicate if patients are on or have recently had IVIG treatment so that we may adjust our assay accordingly.</p> <p>For same-day STAT testing for preliminary results (BC only), please call us at 604-822-7175 prior to sample send out. Sample must be received at our laboratory <i>before</i> 11am of that day to qualify for this service or it will be run the next day.</p>

Name of test	Muscle-specific tyrosine kinase antibodies
Abbreviations, alternate names	MuSK Ab
BC MSP Fee code	91022
Methodology	In-house radioimmunoprecipitation assay (RIA/RIPA)
Test requirements*	<p><i>Note: Please see Additional Information on guidelines for MuSK Ab testing coverage under provincial health services.</i></p> <p><i>Specimen type: Serum</i> Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria: grossly hemolyzed and/or grossly lipemic serum</i></p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p>Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once every two weeks
Turnaround time	Two to four weeks
*Additional Information	<p>As per the Medical Services Commission (MSC) guidelines, if this test is to be billed through provincial health services, it must be requested by a neurologist, ophthalmologist, or a neuro-ophthalmologist and the patient has to have been found AchR Ab negative within the last 18 months with BC Neuroimmunology or with another lab, in which case, a copy of the results from the other lab must be attached or stated on the requisition by the ordering physician. The MSC does <u>not</u> cover repeat testing for patients previously negative for MuSK Ab within 18 months of the last test date.</p> <p>For MuSK Ab that is ordered as reflex testing to AchR Ab, MuSK testing is performed <i>after</i> AchR Ab testing and will <u>not</u> be done if the patient is AchR Ab positive.</p>

Name of test	<i>Voltage-gated calcium channel antibodies21</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	VGCC Ab
BC MSP Fee code	91861
Methodology	Commercial radioimmunoprecipitation kit (Kronus®)
Test requirements*	<p><i>Note:</i> Please see Additional Information on guidelines for VGCC Ab testing coverage under provincial health services.</p> <p><i>Specimen type:</i> Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> grossly hemolyzed and/or grossly lipemic serum</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p>Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once a month
Turnaround time	One to six weeks
*Additional Information	If this test is to be billed through provincial health services, it <i>must</i> be requested by a neurologist as per MSC guidelines. As well, the MSC does not cover repeat VGCC Ab testing as it is a once-in-a-lifetime test.

Name of test	<i>Clustered acetylcholine receptor antibodies</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	Clustered AchR Ab, AchR CBA
Methodology	In-house live cell-based assay (CBA)
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> none</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p>Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once every two weeks
Turnaround time	14 to 21 days
Additional Information	Clustered AchR Ab testing will <u>not</u> be done for patients that are positive for AchR Ab by radioimmunoprecipitation.

Name of test	<i>Aquaporin-4 antibodies</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	AQP4 Ab, NMO Ab
Methodology	In-house live cell-based assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> none</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p>Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once every two weeks
Turnaround time	14 to 21 days

Name of test	<i>Myelin oligodendrocyte antibodies</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	MOG Ab
Methodology	In-house live cell-based assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> none</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p>Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once every two weeks
Turnaround time	14 to 21 days

Name of test	<i>Autoimmune Encephalitis Panel (NMDAR, GABAB, DPPX, LGI1, CASPR2, & AMPAR Ab)</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	Mosaic 6
Methodology	Commercial fixed cell-based assay (Euroimmun), rat brain immunohistochemistry
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> CSF and/or Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> grossly icteric or lipemic serum</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><u>Serum:</u> Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Collect at least 1 mL into a sterile tube.</p>
Specimen handling	<p><u>Serum:</u> Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month) but is preferred to be sent as soon as possible and to avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Specimen stability	<p><u>Serum:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month). Please avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	7 to 14 days, or 24 hours as requested* (see <i>Additional Information</i>)
*Additional Information	For same-day STAT testing (BC only), please call us at 604-822-7175 prior to sample send out. Sample must be received at our laboratory <u>before</u> 2pm of that day to qualify for this service or it will be run the next day.

Name of test	<i>Anti-glutamate receptor (type NMDA) antibodies</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	NMDAR Ab
Methodology	Commercial fixed cell-based assay (Euroimmun)
Test requirements*	<p><i>Specimen type: CSF and/or Serum* (see Additional Information)</i></p> <p>Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria: grossly icteric or lipemic serum</i></p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><u>Serum:</u> Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5ml serum.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Collect at least 1 mL into a sterile tube.</p>
Specimen handling	<p><u>Serum:</u> Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month) but is preferred to be sent as soon as possible and to avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Specimen stability	<p><u>Serum:</u> May be stored at 2to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month). Please avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	7 to 14 days, or 24 hours as requested* (see <i>Additional Information</i>)
*Additional Information	For same-day STAT testing (BC only), please call us at 604-822-7175 prior to sample send out. Samples must be received at our laboratory <u>before</u> 2pm of that day to qualify for this service or it will be run the next day. STAT Testing can be done on CSF only, or CSF with accompanying serum, but <u>not</u> serum alone.

Name of test	<i>Anti-voltage-gated potassium channel (VGKC) associated protein antibodies (LGI1 & CASPR2 Ab)</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	VGKC Ab, LGI1 Ab, CASPR2 Ab
Methodology	Commercial fixed cell-based assay (Euroimmun)
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> CSF and/or Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> grossly icteric or lipemic serum</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><u>Serum:</u> Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Collect at least 1ml into a sterile tube.</p>
Specimen handling	<p><u>Serum:</u> Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month) but is preferred to be sent as soon as possible and to avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Specimen stability	<p><u>Serum:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month). Please avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	7 to 14 days

Name of test	<i>Anti-gamma aminobutyric acid-B receptor antibodies</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	GABA _B Ab
Methodology	Commercial fixed cell-based assay (Euroimmun)
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> CSF and/or Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> grossly icteric or lipemic serum</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><u>Serum:</u> Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Collect at least 1 mL into a sterile tube.</p>
Specimen handling	<p><u>Serum:</u> Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month) but is preferred to be sent as soon as possible and to avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Specimen stability	<p><u>Serum:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month). Please avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	7 to 14 days

Name of test	<i>Anti-Dipeptidyl–Peptidase–Like Protein-6 antibodies</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	DPPX Ab
Methodology	Commercial fixed cell-based assay (Euroimmun)
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> CSF and/or Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> grossly icteric or lipemic serum</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><u>Serum:</u> Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Collect at least 1 mL into a sterile tube.</p>
Specimen handling	<p><u>Serum:</u> Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month) but is preferred to be sent as soon as possible and to avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Specimen stability	<p><u>Serum:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> May be stored at 2 to 8°C for short periods (up to 1 month). Please avoid freeze/thaw cycles.</p>
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	7 to 14 days

Name of test	<i>Paraneoplastic (Neuronal) antibody panel</i> <i>(Amphiphysin, Ri, Yo, Hu, CV2 (CRMP5), Recoverin, SOXL, Ticn, Zic4, GAD65, Tr (DNER), PNMA2 (Ma2/Ta))</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	Paraneoplastic neurological syndrome (PNS) Ab
Methodology	Immunoblot and fixed cell-based assay with reflex rat brain immunohistochemistry
Test requirements	<i>Specimen type:</i> Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL <i>Other rejection criteria:</i> None Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.
Specimen collection	No patient preparation is required for sample collection. Serum: Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.
Specimen handling	Serum: Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at -20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	7 to 14 days

Name of test	<i>Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy Antibody Screen (NF140, NF155, NF186, CNTN1, CASPR1)</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	CIDP Ab panel
Methodology	Fixed cell-based assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> grossly icteric serum</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p>Serum: Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p>
Specimen handling	Serum: Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at -20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once every two weeks
Turnaround time	14 to 21 days

Name of test	<i>Phosphorylated-tau-217</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	pTau217
Methodology	Simoa® assay or Lumipulse® assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Plasma Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> Plasma thawed upon arrival</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><i>Blood collection tubes:</i> Plasma, use K2 EDTA lavender-top vacutainer tubes.</p> <p>Draw blood in collection tube(s) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL plasma.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin collection tubes, pool plasma (if necessary) and store refrigerated. Plasma samples may be stored after collection at 2 to 8°C but must be stored at -80°C if the sample will not be shipped immediately.
Specimen stability	Plasma samples stored at 2 to 8°C must be received at the laboratory within 48 hours of collection. If batch shipping, samples must be frozen (-80°C preferred) and shipped on dry ice. Samples should stay frozen until transport.
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	14 days

Name of test	<i>Apolipoprotein E</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	APOE
Methodology	TaqMan™ Assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Whole blood Minimum volume: 2 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> None</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><i>Blood collection tubes:</i> For whole blood, use K2 EDTA lavender-top vacutainer tubes.</p> <p>Draw blood in collection tube(s) enough for a total of 2 to 5 mL of whole blood.</p>
Specimen handling	Samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for 2 days but is preferred to be sent as soon as possible.
Specimen stability	Samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months).
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	14 days

Name of test	<i>Amyloid-beta 42/40</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	A β 42/40
Methodology	Lumipulse® assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> CSF Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 2 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> CSF thawed upon arrival</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><i>CSF collection tubes:</i> For CSF, use 5 mL Sarstedt tubes.</p> <p>Draw CSF blood in a minimum of 2 collection tube(s) enough for a minimum of 1.5 mL of CSF in each tube.</p>
Specimen handling	Aliquot (before freezing) into multiple 5 mL Sarstedt tubes. Freeze immediately after aliquoting (-80°C preferred). Avoid freeze-thaw cycles or multiple tube transfers.
Specimen stability	CSF samples <u>must</u> be stored after collection at -80°C, preferentially for a minimum of 1 hour. Samples should stay frozen until transported and shipped on dry ice.
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	14 days

Name of test	<i>Neurofilament Light Chain</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	NfL
Methodology	Lumipulse® assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> CSF Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 2 mL</p> <p><i>Specimen type:</i> Plasma Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> Sample thawed upon arrival</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><u>CSF:</u> Use 5 mL Sarstedt tubes. Draw CSF blood in a minimum of 2 collection tube(s) enough for a minimum of 1.5 mL of CSF in each tube.</p> <p><u>Plasma:</u> Draw blood in K2 EDTA lavender-top vacutainer tube(s) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum <u>or</u> plasma.</p>
Specimen handling	<p>For CSF, aliquot (before freezing) into multiple 5 mL Sarstedt tubes. Freeze immediately after aliquoting (-80°C preferred). Avoid freeze-thaw cycles or multiple tube transfers.</p> <p>Spin collection tubes, pool plasma (if necessary) and store refrigerated. Samples must be received at the laboratory within 48 hrs of collection. If batch shipping, samples must be frozen (-80°C preferred) and shipped on dry ice.</p>
Specimen stability	CSF and plasma samples <u>must</u> be stored after collection at -80°C, preferentially for a minimum of 1 hour. Samples should stay frozen until transported and shipped on dry ice.
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	14 days

Name of test	<i>Phosphorylated-tau-181</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	pTau181
Methodology	Lumipulse® assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> CSF Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 2 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> CSF thawed upon arrival</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><i>CSF collection tubes:</i> For CSF, use 5 mL Sarstedt tubes. Draw CSF blood in a minimum of 2 collection tube(s) enough for a minimum of 1.5 mL of CSF in each tube.</p>
Specimen handling	Aliquot (before freezing) into multiple 5 mL Sarstedt tubes. Freeze immediately after aliquoting (-80°C preferred). Avoid freeze-thaw cycles or multiple tube transfers.
Specimen stability	CSF samples <u>must</u> be stored after collection at -80°C, preferentially for a minimum of 1 hour. Samples should stay frozen until transported and shipped on dry ice.
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	14 days

Name of test	Total tau
Abbreviations, alternate names	tTau
Methodology	Lumipulse® assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> CSF Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 2 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> CSF thawed upon arrival</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><i>CSF collection tubes:</i> For CSF, use 5 mL Sarstedt tubes.</p> <p>Draw CSF blood in a minimum of 2 collection tube(s) enough for a minimum of 1.5 mL of CSF in each tube.</p>
Specimen handling	Aliquot (before freezing) into multiple 5 mL Sarstedt tubes. Freeze immediately after aliquoting (-80°C preferred). Avoid freeze-thaw cycles or multiple tube transfers.
Specimen stability	CSF samples <u>must</u> be stored after collection at -80°C, preferentially for a minimum of 1 hour. Samples should stay frozen until transported and shipped on dry ice.
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	14 days

Name of test	<i>Glial fibrillary acidic protein (for research use only)</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	GFAP
Methodology	Simoa® assay
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Plasma Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> Plasma thawed upon arrival</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p><i>Blood collection tubes:</i> Plasma, use K2 EDTA lavender-top vacutainer tubes.</p> <p>Draw blood in collection tube(s) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL plasma.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin collection tubes, pool plasma (if necessary) and store refrigerated. Plasma samples may be stored after collection at 2 to 8°C but must be stored at -80°C if the sample will not be shipped immediately.
Specimen stability	Plasma samples stored at 2 to 8°C must be received at the laboratory within 48 hours of collection. If batch shipping, samples must be frozen (-80°C preferred) and shipped on dry ice. Samples should stay frozen until transport.
Testing frequency	Once a week
Turnaround time	14 days

Name of test	<i>Low-density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 4 antibodies</i>
Abbreviations, alternate names	LRP4 Ab
Methodology	In-house fixed cell-based assay (CBA)
Test requirements	<p><i>Specimen type:</i> Serum Minimum volume: 1 mL Preferred volume: 5 mL</p> <p><i>Other rejection criteria:</i> none</p> <p>Samples must be received with a completed lab requisition with, at minimum, patient information (name, DOB, provincial health care number), ordering physician, and requesting laboratory information.</p>
Specimen collection	<p>No patient preparation is required for sample collection.</p> <p>Draw blood in tube(s) with SST activator (gold-top) enough for a total of 1 to 5 mL serum.</p>
Specimen handling	Spin SST tube(s), pool serum (if necessary), freeze, then batch for delivery on ice packs.
Specimen stability	Serum samples may be stored at 2 to 8°C for up to 1 week or stored at –20°C for longer periods of time (months)
Testing frequency	Once every two weeks
Turnaround time	14 to 21 days