Anti-globulin (Coombs) test in laboratory practice

Oliver and Boyd - Coombs

Indirect Coombs test is used in prenatal testing of pregnant, women, and in testing blood prior to a blood translusion. It detects antibodies against RBCs that are present unbound in the patient's serum. In this case, serum is extracted from the blood sample taken from the patient. Then, the serum is incubated with RBCs of known antigenicity, that is, RBCs with known reference values from other patient blood samples. If agglutination occurs, the indirect Coombs test is positive.

In the coading (sensitization) of red cells can occur in vivo or in vitro following incubation at 37°C with serum containing antibody.

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Coombs testAnti-globulin (Coombs) test in laboratory practice

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Notes: Includes bibliographical references and index

This edition was published in 1959



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Coombs test

Geha, Case Studies in Immunology, 4th ed. The formation of an alloantibody can occur as quickly as within 2 to 3 days. Interfering Factors When performed correctly and utilized in the appropriate clinical context, direct antiglobulin testing has been shown to demonstrate a positive predictive value of 97 to 99 percent, although a more recent study involving hospitalized patients reported a false positive rate of up to 7 to 8 percent in patients without any evidence of hemolysis clinically or histologically.

Coombs test

Quantitative measurement of a sample may be necessary when isolation of a specific antibody is desired, such as in cases of autoimmune hemolysis due to antibodies other than IgG or C3. Each sample is incubated against a wide range of RBCs that together exhibit a full range of surface antigens i.

Anti Globulin Coombs Test Laboratory Practice

Additionally, these anti-human antibodies will also bind to human antibodies that may be fixed onto on the surface of RBCs. If mixing of maternal and fetal blood occurs during pregnancy or the birth process, these antibodies can also attack the baby's rbcs and cause hemolysis.

The Coombs' Test

He mentions this, and recommends an indirect Coombs test to the new assistant pathologist, who presumes this to be obvious, and even signs the requisition form to order Coombs serum. This mechanism could be , or a drug-induced immune-mediated mechanism.

Anti Globulin Coombs Test Laboratory Practice

Indirect antiglobulin testing is clinically useful for the detection of circulating antibodies that have the potential to induce RBC hemolysis; this test is most commonly utilized for RBC phenotyping and in crossmatch screening for blood transfusion. Common clinical uses of the Coombs test include the preparation of blood for in , atypical antibodies in the of women as part of , and detection of antibodies for the diagnosis of immune-mediated.

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