
Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program

Cystic Fibrosis DNA Variant Detection Proficiency Testing Program (CFDNAPT)

In co-sponsorship with Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)
Provided by the Newborn Screening and Molecular Biology Branch
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Report Authorization

This report has been reviewed and authorized by Dr. Suzanne Cordovado, Laboratory Chief, Molecular Quality Improvement Program.

Confidentiality Statement

NSQAP participant information and evaluations are strictly confidential and shared only with individual participants, unless written authorization for release is received.

Introduction

This report summarizes all results submitted within the data-reporting period for the Quarter 1, 2019 program for cystic fibrosis (CF) variant detection for the Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program (NSQAP). It is distributed to all participants, state laboratory directors, and program colleagues by request. The contents provide the certification profiles for the distributed specimens, the primary and secondary screening methods, the DNA extraction methods used by participants, the summary of reported genotypes, and the overall summary of reported clinical assessments. An evaluation of submitted data is attached to individual laboratory reports.

Certification of PT Specimens

The Quarter 1 panel consisted of five dried blood spot (DBS) specimens (119C1, 119C2, 119C3, 119C4, and 119C5) prepared from CF patients, carriers, or unaffected individuals. All variants are characterized at CDC using Sanger sequencing and variants are confirmed in DBS specimens using genotyping and next generation sequencing technologies. Prior to distribution, DNA was extracted from DBS samples with Qiagen Generation DNA Purification & DNA Elution Solutions (also sold as 5 Prime Easy PCR Solutions 1 & 2) and an in-house boiling prep method, and was assayed using Luminex Molecular Diagnostics xTAG CF 60 v2 to verify robust performance.

Table 1. Specimen Certification

Specimen	Allele 1	Allele 2	Genotype [§]	Clinical Assessment
119C1	F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)	711+1G>T (c.579+1G>T)	F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)/ 711+1G>T (c.579+1G>T)	2 (Screen Positive- 1 or 2 variants)
119C2	S549N (c.1646G>A)	No variants detected	S549N (c.1646G>A)/+	2 (Screen Positive- 1 or 2 variants)
119C3	No variants detected	No variants detected	+/+	1 (Screen Negative- Normal)
119C4	F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)	No variants detected	F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)/+	2 (Screen Positive- 1 or 2 variants)
119C5	P205S (c.613C>T)	No variants detected	P205S (c.613C>T)/+	2 (Screen Positive- 1 or 2 variants)

[§] The + in the genotype indicates there are no variants detected in the *CFTR* gene on one or both chromosomes.

Distribution of PT Specimens

On January 15, 2019, NSQAP distributed a panel of five unknown DBS specimens to 35 laboratories in the United States and 41 laboratories in other countries to detect variants in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (*CFTR*) gene.

Participant Results

Data was received from 71 participants by the data reporting deadline. Participants tested specimens by the analytical schemes they routinely use. Reported data included method(s), variant panel(s), screening algorithms, alleles found for each specimen, and clinical assessments. If a method was not commercially available, the participant was asked to provide the variant panel or regions sequenced for the submission to be accepted.

Reported Method Data

Methods varied widely with regard to the panel of variants detected, the algorithm used for testing, and the DNA extraction methods used. Tables 2 – 4 provide the primary and secondary methods used for analysis and the DNA extraction methods reported by participants.

Table 2. Reported Primary Methods

Primary Method	# of Labs
CF1 GenMark Cystic Fibrosis Genotyping	3
CF4 Luminex Molecular Diagnostics CFTR IVD 39 v2	15
CF5 Luminex Molecular Diagnostics xTAG CF 60 v2	11
CF6 Luminex Molecular Diagnostics xTAG CF 71 v2	1
CF7 Luminex Platform and Laboratory Developed Test	1
CF8 Elucigene Diagnostics CF4v2	1
CF10 Elucigene Diagnostics CF30v2	3
CF11 Elucigene Diagnostics CF-EU2v1	5
CF15 Inno-LiPA Strips 17+19	3
CF17 Sequenom assays other than HerediT CF (MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry)	4
CF18 ViennaLab Diagnostics GmbH CF StripAssay, GER	4
CF19 ViennaLab Diagnostics GmbH CF StripAssay, 4-410	1
CF20 Allele-specific Oligonucleotide PCR	2
CF21 High Resolution Melt Technology	2
CF22 Real-time PCR Allelic Discrimination Assay (ie TaqMan)	2
CF23 In-house Amplification Refractory Mutation System	1
CF26 Capillary Electrophoresis	2
CF27 Amplification and Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism Analysis	1
CF29 Next Gen Sequencing - Illumina MiSeqDx 139 Variant Assay	2
CF30 Next Gen Sequencing - Multiplicom Molecular Diagnostics CFTR MASTR v2	1
CF32 All other gene sequencing protocols including Sanger and Next Gen	2
CF34 Devyser CFTR Core	1
CF35 Agena Bioscience iPLEX pro CFTR panel	1
CF37 Swift Biosciences Accel Amplicon CFTR Panel	1
CF99 Other	1

Table 3. Reported Secondary Methods

Secondary Method	# of Labs
CF1 GenMark Cystic Fibrosis Genotyping	1
CF4 Luminex Molecular Diagnostics CFTR IVD 39 v2	5
CF5 Luminex Molecular Diagnostics xTAG CF 60 v2	3
CF11 Elucigene Diagnostics CF-EU2v1	2
CF15 Inno-LiPA Strips 17+19	3
CF17 Sequenom assays other than HerediT CF (MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry)	2
CF18 ViennaLab Diagnostics GmbH CF StripAssay, GER	1
CF25 PCR/Heteroduplex Analysis/Gel Electrophoresis	2
CF26 Capillary Electrophoresis	1
CF31 Next Gen Sequencing - Ion AmpliSeq CFTR Community Panel	1
CF32 All other gene sequencing protocols including Sanger and Next Gen	7
CF99 Other	4
No secondary method reported	39

Table 4. Reported DNA Extraction Methods

Extraction Method	# of Labs
X1 Qiagen QIAamp spin columns (manual or robotic)	8
X2 Qiagen magnetic bead kit (EZ1 or BioSprint 96)	3
X3 Qiagen Generation DNA Purification & DNA Elution Solutions	22
X4 Sigma Aldrich Extract-N-Amp	3
X5 in-house alkaline lysis prep	8
X6 in-house boiling prep	3
X7 in-house lysis boiling prep	2
X8 ViennaLab GenXtract	1
X19 Other	21

Allele Assessment Data

Tables 5a – 5e show the genotypes identified by the participants and the genotype errors for each specimen.

Table 5a. **Specimen 119C1**

Genotype Identified	Number of labs	Number of Genotype Errors
F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)/ 711+1G>T (c.579+1G>T)	52	0
F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)/+	18	0
F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)/ F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)	1	1

Table 5b. **Specimen 119C2**

Genotype Identified	Number of labs	Number of Genotype Errors
S549N (c.1646G>A)/+	44	0
No Variants Detected	26	0
S549N (c.1646G>A)/ No Variant Reported	1	0

Table 5c. **Specimen 119C3**

Genotype Identified	Number of labs	Number of Genotype Errors
No Variants Detected	70	0
No Variants Detected / No Variant Reported	1	0

Table 5d. **Specimen 119C4**

Genotype Identified	Number of labs	Number of Genotype Errors
F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)/+	69	0
F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)/ No Variant Reported	1	0
F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)/ F508del (c.1521_1523delCTT)	1	1

Table 5e. **Specimen 119C5**

Genotype Identified	Number of labs	Number of Genotype Errors
P205S (c.613C>T)/+	9	0
No Variants Detected	61	0
No Variants Detected/ No Variant Reported	1	0

Clinical Assessment Data

Since all specimens were evaluated based on participants' specific method(s), variant panel, and algorithm, the clinical assessments may vary between laboratories while still being correct. Table 6 provides the participants' clinical assessments for each specimen.

Table 6. Clinical Assessments Reported for each Specimen

Clinical Assessment	119C1	119C2	119C3	119C4	119C5
Screen Negative	0	26	71	0	63
Screen Positive (1 or 2 Variants Detected)	71	45	0	71	8
Incorrect Clinical Assessment(s)	0	0	0	0	1

Evaluations

Evaluations are based on the allele identification and clinical assessment of each specimen where the clinical assessment counts for 10% of the evaluation and each identified allele counts for 5% of the evaluation. Since participants are evaluated according to their screening method(s), variant panel, and screening algorithm, the identified alleles and clinical assessments may vary from laboratory to laboratory while still being correct.

NSQAP received and processed data from 71 participants. Five laboratories did not report data for Quarter 1 of 2019.

Summary of Overall Evaluations for each Specimen

Specimen 119C1

- 71 participants reported a clinical assessment of screen positive
- 1 participant detected an incorrect allele, but it did not result in an incorrect clinical assessment

Specimen 119C2

- 26 participants reported a clinical assessment of screen negative
- 45 participants reported a clinical assessment of screen positive
- 1 participant did not report an allele for this specimen

Specimen 119C3

- 71 participants reported a clinical assessment of screen negative
- 1 participant did not report an allele for this specimen

Specimen 119C4

- 71 participants reported a clinical assessment of screen positive
- 1 participant did not report an allele for this specimen
- 1 participant detected an incorrect allele, but it did not result in an incorrect clinical assessment

Specimen 119C5

- 63 participants reported a clinical assessment of screen negative
- 8 participants reported a clinical assessment of screen positive
- 1 participant did not report an allele for this specimen
- 1 participant detected the correct alleles, however reported an incorrect clinical assessment

Future Shipments

The Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program will ship Quarter 3 PT specimens for the CFDNAPT on June 25, 2019.

Direct Inquiries

If you have any comments or questions about CFDNAPT, contact Dr. Suzanne Cordovado at 770-488-4048 or by email at SCordovado@cdc.gov

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The content of this report may also be located on our website at:
https://www.cdc.gov/labstandards/nsqap_reports.html

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