Policy Number: PA.212.MPC
Last Review Date: 11/17/2022
Effective Date: 12/01/2022

PA.212.MPC – Avise Connective Tissue Disorder

Maryland Physicians Care considers Avise Connective Tissue Disorder (CTD) for the testing of Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), Graves Disease, Hashimoto Disease or any other application to be ***experimental and investigational.***

Maryland Physicians Care does not provide coverage for experimental or investigational services and procedures.

Background
The Avise CTD test is an advanced autoimmune rheumatic disease test which can help physicians assess patients with potential SLE. The Avise CTD may benefit the assessment of patients with antinuclear antibody (ANA) referrals, patients with symptoms of connective tissue disease, patients with overlapping symptoms, physician observation of undifferentiated connective tissue disease, and ANA positive patients with fibromyalgia.

Avise CTD uses nuclear antigen biomarkers to distinguish specific connective tissue disorders. Antinuclear antibodies target “normal” proteins within the nucleus of a cell. The presence of large amount of autoantibodies or ANAs can indicate the presence of an autoimmune disease, such as lupus, mixed CTD, scleroderma, and juvenile arthritis. According to Exogen Diagnostics, although some components of Avise tests are FDA approved devices, the integrative tests methods have not been cleared or approved by the FDA.

CPT Codes Not Covered for Indications Above:

Code	Description
83520	Immunoassay for analyte other than infectious agent antibody or infectious agent antigen
86146	Beta 2 Glycoprotein I antibody, each
86147	Cardiolipin (phospholipid) antibody, each Ig class
86148	Qualitative or Semiquantitative Immunoassays

PA.212.MPC - Avise CTD Non Coverage

Policy Number: PA.212.MPC
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References

1. American College of Rheumatology (ACR). 1997 Update of the 1982 American College of Rheumatology Revised Criteria for Classification of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. n.d. https://www.bumc.bu.edu/im-residency/files/2011/11/ACR-1997-SLE.pdf
2. Exagen Diagnostics. Avise CTD: The Advanced Rheumatology Test for The Differential Diagnosis of SLE, 2019. https://www.exagen.com/tests/ctd/
3. Mossell J, Goldman JA, Barken D, Alexander RV. The Avise Lupus Test and Cell-bound Complement Activation Products Aid the Diagnosis of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. Open Rheumatol J. 2016;10:71–80. Published 2016 Oct 31. doi:10.2174/1874312901610010071. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5101629/
4. Wallace DJ, Silverman SL, Conklin J, et al. Systemic lupus erythematosus and primary fibromyalgia can be distinguished by testing for cell-bound complement activation products. Lupus Sci Med. 2016;3(1):e000127.PMID 26870391. https://www.exagen.com/wp-content/uploads/Wallace-et-al.-LSM.-2016.-Systemic-lupus-erythematosus-and-primary-fibromyalgia-can-be.pdf

Archived Referenes:

1. Hayes GTE Report. Avise MTX (Exagen Diagnostics) for Monitoring Treatment with Methotrexate. Published Date: 08/10/2017. Archived: 09/10/2019.
2. Hayes GTE Report. Avise CTD (Exagen Diagnostics). Published Date: 10/27/2016. Archived Date: 01/27/2022.

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