

Neuromyelitis Optica

- Antibodies to aquaporin-4 (also known as AQP4- Ab or NMO- IgG) are sensitive & highly specific serum markers of autoimmune NMO
- AQP4- Ab testing can be of diagnostic relevance independently of disease activity or treatment status

AQP4- Abs are detectable in 60-90% of patients with NMO but are virtually absent in patients with MS and other inflammatory and non-inflammatory neurological diseases

(Kang E-S et al. Ann Lab Med 2012, 32; 331 - 338)

Testing for AQP4 antibodies not only enables a reliable distinction to be made between NMO and MS, but also facilitates differential diagnosis concerning other autoimmune diseases affecting the CNS

(Paul F et al. PLoS 2007, Med 4(4): e133)

NMO-IgG positive alone	75% sensitive 90% specific	when trying to differentiate NMO from MS with optic nerve / spinal cord involvement
Normal brain MRI plus NMO - IgG positive	< 94% sensitive < 90% specific	For clinical diagnosis of NMO

Sample Requirement : 3 ml serum

Test Schedule : Wed : 9 am

Reported on : Next day at 10 am

DMY

NMO