

Coombs Direct Test (Direct Antiglobulin Test - Dat) (COOMBS)

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TEST OVERVIEW

Test Name	Coombs Direct Test (Direct Antiglobulin Test - Dat)
Test Code	COOMBS
Short Description	Coombs Direct Test (Direct Antiglobulin Test - Dat)

OVERVIEW

Test Name	Coombs Direct Test (Direct Antiglobulin Test - Dat)
Test Code	COOMBS
Category	Immunohaematology
TAT	Main Lab: 6, Hour(s) Family Site: <6hrs
Specimen(s)	1 x Venous blood - 5 mL Tube - Lavender - EDTA Plasma

SPECIMEN(S)

EDTA Plasma

Specimen Type	EDTA Plasma
Specimen Format	Tube
Specimen Colour	Lavender
Specimen Volume	5 mL
Sampling Order	4
Origin	Venous blood
Collection time after baseline	-
Transport Temperature	15-25°C
Accepted Other Specimens	-

TAT	Main Lab: 6, Hour(s) Family Site: <6hrs
Test Stability	Room Temp: 24 Hour(s) 2–8°C: 72 Hour(s)

CLINICAL INFORMATION

DAT (Coombs Direct Test-Direct Antiglobulin Test)

Methodology	-
Specimen Type	EDTA Plasma
Delay before pre-treatment	-
Transport Temperature	15-25°C
Transport Stability at room temp	24 Hours
Transport Stability at 2–8°C	72 Hours
Haemolysis interference	No

Clinical Interest

The **direct coombs** test is a biological examination used to look for antibodies or complement proteins that have attached themselves to the surface of red blood cells (RBCs). This test is used to diagnose various pathologies that cause haemolytic anaemia, a disease in which red blood cells are destroyed faster than the body can replace them.

The direct coombs test is used to investigate a number of conditions:

- **Autoimmune haemolytic anaemia (AIHA):** this is a condition in which the body's immune system attacks its own red blood cells.
- **Drug-induced haemolytic anaemia:** Certain drugs can cause the body to produce antibodies that attack red blood cells. The direct coombs test may be positive in these cases.
- **Haemolytic disease of the newborn (HDN):** This disease occurs when the mother's antibodies attack the baby's red blood cells. The direct coombs test is positive in most cases of HDN.

PATIENT INFORMATION

Clinical Information Required	-
Patient Collection Notes	-

COMMENTS & NOTES

LOINC Code	04-1, 1004-1
Outwork	No