

## **Diagnostic Tests in Autoimmune Liver Disease**

RDL, Inc. is introducing several new FDA approved assays to evaluate suspected autoimmune hepatitis.

There are two major types of autoimmune hepatitis (AIH I and AIH II). Autoimmune hepatitis I is characterized serologically by several antibody markers. Antinuclear antibody is the major antibody seen in Type I disease. With respect to antinuclear antibodies, a variety of species of ANAs can be seen, including antichromatin, anti-double strand DNA, anti-single strand DNA, antihistone, antinuclear lamins, anti-RNP and others. Anti-actin (a type of anti-smooth muscle antibody) is seen in about 75% of cases. Another new marker, anti-soluble liver antigen (anti-SLA) can be seen and is 100% specific for AIH I. It can also be the only autoantibody in 10-15% of cases and accompanies other antibodies in 30% of AIH I. Finally, atypical P-ANCA are seen in 65-95% of AIH I but can also occur in sclerosing cholangitis.

AIH II is characterized by anti-liver microsomal I antibodies present in 95-100% of patients. Another antibody in AIH II is anti-liver cytosolic protein antibody, which can occur alone or with anti-liver/kidney microsomal I. Fifty percent (50%) of AIH II patients have anti-liver cytosolic protein antibodies.

RDL is now offering several panels formatted to evaluate autoimmune liver disease, including: AIH Type I, AIH Type II, primary biliary cirrhosis and sclerosing cholangitis.

### **Comprehensive Autoimmune Liver Disease Panel**

- **ANA by IFA**
- **Anti-Actin by EIA**
- **Anti-Soluble Liver Antigen (Anti-SLA) by EIA**
- **P-ANCA by IFA**
- **Anti-Liver Kidney Microsomal I by EIA**
- **Anti-Mitochondrial (M2) by EIA**

These autoantibodies can also be ordered independently.

We believe that this will be a substantial improvement in evaluating patients with autoimmune hepatitis types I and II.