Broad Coverage Ab Assay
Lyme and TBRF

PURPOSE
Borreliosis, a vector-borne disease caused by a bacterium-Borrelia: The Lyme Borreliae group and the Tick-Borne Relapsing Fever (TBRF) Borreliae group. The Lyme Borreliae group is transmitted by hard ticks (Ixodes) and the TBRF Borreliae group is transmitted by hard (Ixodes) and soft (Ornithodoros) ticks.

For decades, Lyme-like symptoms were believed to be a manifestation of Lyme disease caused by the Lyme Borreliae group only. However, we now know that the TBRF Borreliae group can also cause Lyme-like symptoms.

The Lyme Borreliae group and the TBRF Borreliae group can cause Borreliosis, which is often confused with Multiple Sclerosis, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Osteoarthritis and ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease. The Broad Coverage Antibody (BCA) Assays for Lyme Borreliae and TBRF Borreliae are designed to detect antibodies for each specific group of antigens in human serum. Both tests are very specific and inclusive for the Lyme Borreliae group and the TBRF Borreliae group.

A positive test suggests exposure to the Lyme Borreliae group or the TBRF Borreliae group, and should be used in conjunction with patient clinical symptoms and history. The BCA Assay is a simple and cost-effective test, which gives either a positive or negative result. For specific protein or band information, an ImmunoBlot IgM or IgG test should be ordered to provide more information and possible speciation of the Borrelia.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS
The sensitivity of the Lyme BCA Assay is 90%, and the specificity is 97%; and for the TBRF BCA Assay, the sensitivity is 90% and the specificity is 98% as compared to Lyme and TBRF ImmunoBlots respectively.

ADVANTAGES
- Far broader and more inclusive of Borrelia species than standard serologies
- Detects antibodies to Borrelia species from North American, European and Australian strains
- Better than two-tier ELISA/WB and two-tier ELISA
- Provides a simple, cost-effective, yes/no result with no complicated interpretation necessary

SAMPLE REQUIREMENT: 0.5 ml serum
TEST NUMBER: 601 Broad Coverage Lyme Ab Assay
602 Broad Coverage TBRF Ab Assay
CPT CODE: 0042U, 0044U

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