**PLASMA CLOZAPINE ASSAY REQUEST FORM**

Please send the completed form with a blood sample (at least 2 mL - collect into EDTA tube) to:

Dr RJ Flanagan, Toxicology Unit, Bessemer Wing, King’s College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS

Tel: 020 3299 5881, Fax: 020 3299 5888, e-mail: kch-tr.toxicology@nhs.net

*** Pack safely to Post Office regulations - Use KingsPath address envelopes (available from the CPMS) - Do not send with courier for CPMS FBC ***

- Take the sample **before** a morning dose or in the morning after an evening dose (“trough sample”). **Sampling < 6 h post-dose may make the results difficult to interpret/compare with previous results**
- Serum can be analysed although plasma is preferred
- **Addresses** to which the report and invoice are to be sent must be supplied.
- The **assay cost** is £25 per sample.
- The report will be sent to the **consultant**, unless other arrangements are specified or in place.
- Assay results will be available on-line within 2 working days of sample receipt (log on to [http://www.kingspath.co.uk/results.php](http://www.kingspath.co.uk/results.php) to register with our free, secure Results On-Line service).

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Report and invoice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Last name</strong></td>
<td><strong>Assay requested by</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First name(s)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Phone / bleep no</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clozaril Patient Monitoring Service No</strong></td>
<td><strong>E-mail address</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hospital or NHS no</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fax number</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date of birth</strong></td>
<td><strong>Consultant</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Sex** | "Address for report & invoice (if invoice address is different, use space below)"
| **M / F** | |
| **Weight (kg)** | "*Address for invoice (& cost centre if needed)"
| | **Postcode** |
| **Date of sample?** | **Postcode** |
| **Time of sample?** | "* Invoice details may be omitted if invoice address/cost centre already notified for this patient" |
| **Date of last clozapine dose?** | |
| **Time of last clozapine dose?** | |
| **Clozapine dose (mg/d)?** | |
| **Smoker?** | YES/NO |
| | |

- Reason for request
  - Baseline value?
  - Poor / non-compliance?
  - Dose correct?
  - Drug interaction?
  - Adverse reaction?
  - Other (please give details)?

This form may be photocopied or downloaded ([http://www.clozaril.co.uk](http://www.clozaril.co.uk))
Plasma Clozapine Assay Service – Clozaril Patient Monitoring Service Guide

BACKGROUND
Clozapine is a second generation antipsychotic used to treat schizophrenia resistant to conventional therapy. Adverse effects may include hypotension, lethargy, somnolence, hypersalivation, and constipation. There is a risk of seizures at higher doses/plasma concentrations. There is evidence that clozapine metabolism is saturable at higher dose. Smoking habit has a big (on average ± 50 % smokers/non smokers) effect on clozapine dose requirement.

CLINICAL APPLICATION
- Assessment of adherence
- Dose adjustment: ‘trough’ plasma concentrations ≥ 0.35 mg/L are suggested to ensure a fair trial of the drug
- Assessment of the impact of changes in smoking habit on clozapine dose requirement
- Investigation of possible dose-related adverse effects

Note: Patient consent should be obtained before taking a sample for clozapine monitoring. Information given on the assay request form will be entered on a computer database and used to help interpret the result or improve result interpretation in future. The information provided on the request form is not made available to CPMS.

SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS
Minimal sample requirement 2mL EDTA blood - collect blood and mix well (do not shake). ‘Trough’ samples are preferred, either pre-dose or minimum 6 hours post-dose.

STORAGE AND TRANSPORT
Pack safely to Post Office regulations using KingsPath address envelopes (available from the CPMS).

THE KINGSPATH PLASMA CLOZAPINE ASSAY SERVICE – RESULTS ON-LINE
- Full CPA accreditation with participation in external quality assessment (Heathcontrol (LGC Standards) Antipsychotics scheme)
- Consultant-led service – Clinical interpretation and advice available based on 18 years of service provision
- Fast Turnaround - Clozapine and norclozapine (N-desmethyclozapine) results will be available on-line within 2 working days of sample receipt (log on to http://www.kingspath.co.uk/results.php to register with our free, secure Results On-Line service).

VISIT www.kingspath.co.uk - For further information and to preview the KingsPath Results On-line service.

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References


YQ Xiang, ZJ Zhang, YZ Weng, YM Zhai, WB Li, ZJ Cai, QR Tan, CY Wang. Serum concentrations of clozapine and norclozapine in the prediction of relapse of patients with schizophrenia. Schizophr Res 2006; 83: 201-10


