

Peutz-Jeghers Syndrome

Indications for Ordering

- Confirm diagnosis of Peutz-Jeghers syndrome (PJS) in symptomatic individual
- Disease prediction in presymptomatic individual with family history of PJS

Test Description

- Polymerase chain reaction followed by bidirectional sequencing of *STK11* coding regions and intron/exon boundaries
- Multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification to detect large *STK11* deletions/duplications

Tests to Consider

Primary tests

[Peutz-Jeghers Syndrome \(STK11\) Sequencing and Deletion/Duplication 2008398](#)

- Preferred test to confirm diagnosis of PJS in symptomatic individual

[Peutz-Jeghers Syndrome \(STK11\) Sequencing 2008394](#)

- Acceptable test to confirm diagnosis of PJS in symptomatic individual
- Detects most pathogenic variants

Related test

[Familial Mutation, Targeted Sequencing 2001961](#)

- Useful when a pathogenic familial variant identifiable by sequencing is known

Disease Overview

Prevalence – 1/25,000-280,000

Age of onset

- Hyperpigmented macules most pronounced by age 4 – not usually present at birth
- Median age for gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms is 10-12 years

Symptoms

- GI polyposis
- Hamartomatous polyps resulting in
 - Chronic bleeding
 - Anemia
 - Recurrent obstruction
 - Intussusception
 - Adenomatous polyps in
 - Colon
 - Small intestine
 - Stomach
 - Large bowel
 - Nasal passages
- Lifetime risk for any cancer varies between 37-90%
- Hyperpigmentation presenting as dark-blue to brown macules around
 - Mouth
 - Eyes
 - Nostrils
 - Perianal area
 - Buccal mucosa
 - Fingers
- Increased risk for epithelial malignancies
 - Colorectal
 - Gastric
 - Pancreatic
 - Breast
 - Ovarian
 - Sex cord tumors with annular tubules
 - Adenoma malignum of cervix

Diagnostic consensus criteria

- Any one of the following
 - At least two histologically confirmed Peutz-Jeghers (PJ)-type polyps
 - At least one PJ polyp and family history of PJS
 - Characteristic hyperpigmented macules and family history of PJS
 - At least one PJ polyp and characteristic hyperpigmented macules

Recommended follow-up testing

- Surveillance by video capsule endoscopy starting at age 10 years
- Gastroduodenoscopy at 20 years
- Breast exam and MRI at 25 years
- Pelvic exam, cervical smear, transvaginal ultrasound, and CA-125 at 25-30 years
- Colonoscopy at 25-30 years
- MRI and endoscopic ultrasound of pancreas at 30 years
- Mammography and MRI at 30 years

Genetics

Gene – *STK11*

Inheritance – autosomal dominant

Penetrance – 100%

De novo variant(s) – 50%

Variants – >290 *STK11* variants reported

Test Interpretation

Sensitivity/specificity

- Clinical sensitivity
 - PJS (*STK11*) sequencing and deletion/duplication
 - 100% sensitivity in individuals with family history of PJS
 - ~91% in individuals without a family history
 - PJS (*STK11*) sequencing
 - ~55% sensitivity in individuals with a family history of PJS
 - ~70% in individuals without a family history
 - PJS (*STK11*) deletion/duplication
 - ~45% sensitivity in individuals with a family history of PJS
 - ~21% in individuals without a family history
- Analytical sensitivity/specificity – 99%

Results

- Positive – diagnosis confirmed
- Negative – diagnosis of PJS is less likely but not excluded
- Uncertain – gene variant detected, but whether the variant is benign or pathogenic is unclear

Limitations

- Regulatory region and deep intronic variants will not be detected
- Large deletion/duplication breakpoints will not be determined
- Diagnostic errors can occur due to rare sequence variations