

Overview

Useful For

Evaluating von Willebrand disease and platelet-type von Willebrand disease in patients with a personal or family history suggestive of von Willebrand disease

Confirming von Willebrand disease or platelet-type von Willebrand disease diagnoses with the identification of a known or suspected disease-causing alteration in the *VWF* or *GP1BA* genes, respectively

Determining the disease-causing alterations within the *VWF* or *GP1BA* genes to delineate the underlying molecular defect in a patient with a laboratory diagnosis of von Willebrand disease or platelet-type von Willebrand disease, respectively

Subtyping von Willebrand disease as type 1 (most common), type 2 variants (less common), or type 3 (rare), as well as distinguishing von Willebrand disease from platelet-type von Willebrand disease

Identifying the causative alteration for genetic counseling purposes

Prognosis and risk assessment based on the genotype-phenotype correlations

Carrier testing for close family members of an individual with a von Willebrand disease or platelet-type von Willebrand disease diagnosis

Reflex Tests

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
_STR1	Comp Analysis using STR (Bill only)	No, (Bill only)	No
_STR2	Add'l comp analysis w/STR (Bill Only)	No, (Bill only)	No
CULFB	Fibroblast Culture for Genetic Test	Yes	No
CULAF	Amniotic Fluid Culture/Genetic Test	Yes	No
MATCC	Maternal Cell Contamination, B	Yes	No

Genetics Test Information

This test utilizes next-generation sequencing to detect single nucleotide and copy number variants in the *VWF* and *GP1BA* genes associated with von Willebrand disease and platelet-type von Willebrand disease. See Method Description for additional details.

Identification of a disease-causing variant may assist with diagnosis, prognosis, clinical management, recurrence risk assessment, familial screening, and genetic counseling for von Willebrand disease and platelet-type von Willebrand disease.

Testing Algorithm

The laboratory workup for von Willebrand disease is complex and requires initial coagulation screening (including a complete blood cell count, platelet count, partial thromboplastin time, prothrombin time, and fibrinogen or thrombin time) should be performed prior to any consideration of genetic testing.

Genetic testing for a von Willebrand disease is indicated if:

- Coagulation tests indicate a deficiency or functional abnormality in von Willebrand factor
- There is a clinical suspicion for von Willebrand disease due to family history or atypical clinical presentation
- Acquired causes of deficiencies associated with von Willebrand disease have been excluded (eg, certain myeloproliferative disorders, plasma cell dyscrasias including monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance, high-shear stress-related cardiovascular conditions, and autoimmune disorders).

A clinical and laboratory testing algorithm for von Willebrand disease has been developed by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health that is freely available at www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-pro/guidelines/current/von-willebrand-guidelines. If von Willebrand disease is a concern, sets of clinical guidelines on testing for von Willebrand disease and platelet-type von Willebrand disease are also freely available.(1,2)

For prenatal specimens only:

Prenatal genetic testing is not routinely performed without the prior identification of familial alterations. Requests for this prenatal testing without a known familial alteration are performed at the discretion of the Molecular Hematopathology Laboratory Director.

-If amniotic fluid (nonconfluent cultured cells) is received, an amniotic fluid culture/genetic test will be added at an additional charge.

-If a chorionic villus specimen (nonconfluent cultured cells) is received, fibroblast culture for genetic test will be added at an additional charge.

For any prenatal specimen that is received, maternal cell contamination testing will be performed at an additional charge.

Special Instructions

- [Informed Consent for Genetic Testing](#)
- [Informed Consent for Genetic Testing \(Spanish\)](#)
- [von Willebrand Disease Patient Information](#)

Method Name

Sequence Capture and Targeted Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) followed by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) and Sanger Sequencing

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Varies

Ordering Guidance

A systematic diagnosis through conventional coagulation testing is recommended before considering genetic testing for any suspected bleeding disorder. Special coagulation testing for evaluating patients suspected of having von Willebrand disease is available; order AVWPR / von Willebrand Disease Profile, Plasma.

If testing for hereditary bleeding disorders using a larger panel is desired, both a 6-gene and a 25-gene bleeding panel are available. For more information see GNBLF / Bleeding Disorders, Focused Gene Panel, Next-Generation Sequencing, Varies or GNBLC / Bleeding Disorders, Comprehensive Gene Panel, Next-Generation Sequencing, Varies.

Customization of this panel and/or single gene analysis for any gene present on this panel is available. For more information see CGPH / Custom Gene Panel, Hereditary, Next-Generation Sequencing, Varies.

Targeted testing for familial variants (also called site-specific or known variants testing) is available for *VWF* and *GP1BA* genes. See FMTT / Familial Variant, Targeted Testing, Varies. To obtain more information about this testing option, call 800-533-1710.

Additional Testing Requirements

All prenatal specimens must be accompanied by a maternal blood specimen; order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen as this must be a different order number than the prenatal specimen.

Shipping Instructions

Specimen preferred to arrive within 96 hours of collection.

Necessary Information

[von Willebrand Disease Patient Information](#) is required. Testing may proceed without the patient information; however, the information aids in providing a more thorough interpretation. Ordering providers are strongly encouraged to fill out the form and send with the specimen.

Specimen Required

Patient Preparation: A previous bone marrow transplant from an allogenic donor will interfere with testing. For instructions for testing patients who have received a bone marrow transplant, call 800-533-1710.

Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

Specimen Type: Whole blood

Container/Tube:

Preferred: Lavender top (EDTA)

Acceptable: Yellow top (ACD)

Specimen Volume: 3 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. Invert several times to mix blood.
2. Send whole blood specimen in original tube. **Do not aliquot.**

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred) 4 days/Refrigerated

Prenatal Specimens

Due to its complexity, consultation with the laboratory is required for all prenatal testing; call 800-533-1710 to speak to a genetic counselor.

Specimen Type: Amniotic fluid

Container/Tube: Amniotic fluid container

Specimen Volume: 20 mL

Specimen Stability Information: Refrigerated (preferred)/Ambient

Additional information:

1. [A separate culture charge will be assessed under](#) CULAF / Culture for Genetic Testing, Amniotic Fluid.
2. **All prenatal specimens must be accompanied by a maternal blood specimen;** order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen.

Specimen Type: Chorionic villi

Container/Tube: 15-mL tube containing 15 mL of transport media

Specimen Volume: 20 mg

Specimen Stability Information: Refrigerated

Additional Information:

1. [A separate culture charge will be assessed under](#) CULFB / Fibroblast Culture for Biochemical or Molecular Testing.
2. **All prenatal specimens must be accompanied by a maternal blood specimen;** order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen.

Acceptable:

Specimen Type: Confluent cultured cells

Container/Tube: T-25 flask

Specimen Volume: 2 Flasks

Collection Instructions: Submit confluent cultured cells from another laboratory.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient (preferred)/Refrigerated

Additional Information:

All prenatal specimens must be accompanied by a maternal blood specimen; order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on the maternal specimen.

Forms

- [von Willebrand Disease Patient Information \(T825\)](#) is required.
- New York Clients-Informed consent is required.** Document on the request form or electronic order that a copy is on file. The following documents are available:
 - [Informed Consent for Genetic Testing \(T576\)](#)
 - [Informed Consent for Genetic Testing \(Spanish\) \(T826\)](#)
- If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send an [Coagulation Test Request \(T753\)](#) with the specimen.

Specimen Minimum Volume

Blood: 1 mL; Amniotic fluid: 10 mL; Other specimen types: see Specimen Required

Reject Due To

All specimens will be evaluated at Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability.

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Varies	Varies		

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

von Willebrand disease (VWD) is the most common inherited bleeding disorder, affecting approximately 1% of the population. VWD is a bleeding diathesis that usually involves mucous membranes and skin sites. It is typically of mild to moderate severity, although life-threatening bleeding in the central nervous system or gastrointestinal tract can occur. The most common presenting symptoms in individuals affected by VWD include epistaxis, menorrhagia, bleeding after dental extraction, postoperative bleeding, ecchymoses, bleeding from minor cuts or abrasions, gingival bleeding, and hemarthrosis.(1) While VWD occurs with equal frequency among men and women, symptoms in women are more obvious because of increased bleeding during menstrual periods, pregnancy, and after childbirth.

VWD is a result of defects in the concentration, structure, or function of von Willebrand factor (VWF), leading to decreased factor VIII (FVIII) in circulation and/or impaired platelet adhesion and aggregation at the site of vascular injury. The *VWF* gene encodes for VWF, a protein that protects blood clotting FVIII from degradation in circulation and promotes platelet adhesion and aggregation at the site of vascular injury. In circulation, VWF assembles into linear strings called multimers, the size of which is biologically important; larger multimers being more reactive than smaller multimers.

Levels of factor VIII, VWF antigen, and VWF activity may vary greatly within each individual over time and also with blood type (normal type "O" individuals may have VWF lower than normal individuals of other blood groups). VWF levels (and factor VIII) can be elevated in liver disease, pregnancy, estrogen therapy, inflammation, and after exercise (acute-phase reactant). VWF levels in hemophilia are normal.

This panel evaluates 2 genes associated with von Willebrand disease and platelet-type von Willebrand disease. Discrimination between these 2 heritable disorders, specifically concerning types 2A and 2B VWD and platelet-type

VWD, using genetic analysis can help guide treatment. Genetic testing can also be used to assist in discriminating between type 2N VWD and hemophilia A. Subtyping of VWD using genetic analysis is important for prognosis and in guiding treatment, as well as determining inheritance pattern and risks for family members.(1,2)

The risk for developing bleeding associated with these disorders and subtypes varies. The *VWF* and *GP1BA* genes have established bleeding risk and expert group guidelines.(1-4)

It is recommended that genetic testing be offered to all patients where it may assist in diagnosis and management of von Willebrand disease.(1) Genetic testing is integral to the conclusive diagnosis of platelet-type von Willebrand disease.(5)

Reference Values

An interpretive report will be provided.

Interpretation

All detected variants are evaluated according to American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics recommendations.(6) Variants are classified based on known, predicted, or possible pathogenicity and reported with interpretive comments detailing their potential or known significance.

Cautions

Clinical Correlations:

Test results should be interpreted in the context of clinical findings, family history, and other laboratory data. Misinterpretation of results may occur if the information provided is inaccurate or incomplete.

If testing was performed because of a clinically significant family history, it is often useful to first test an affected family member. Detection of a reportable variant in an affected family member would allow for more informative testing of at-risk individuals.

To discuss the availability of additional testing options or for assistance in the interpretation of these results, contact the Mayo Clinic Laboratories genetic counselors at 800-533-1710.

Technical Limitations:

Next-generation sequencing may not detect all types of genomic variants. In rare cases, false-negative or false-positive results may occur. The depth of coverage may be variable for some target regions; assay performance below the minimum acceptable criteria or for failed regions will be noted. Given these limitations, negative results do not rule out the diagnosis of a genetic disorder. If a specific clinical disorder is suspected, evaluation by alternative methods can be considered.

There may be regions of genes that cannot be effectively evaluated by sequencing or deletion and duplication analysis as a result of technical limitations of the assay, including regions of homology, high guanine-cytosine (GC) content, and repetitive sequences. Confirmation of select reportable variants will be performed by alternate methodologies based on internal laboratory criteria.

This test is validated to detect 95% of deletions up to 75 base pairs (bp) and insertions up to 47 bp. Deletions-insertions (delins) of 40 or more bp, including mobile element insertions, may be less reliably detected than smaller delins.

Deletion/Duplication Analysis:

This analysis targets single and multi-exon deletions/duplications; however, in some instances, single exon resolution cannot be achieved due to isolated reduction in sequence coverage or inherent genomic complexity. Balanced structural rearrangements (such as translocations and inversions) may not be detected.

This test is not designed to detect low levels of mosaicism or to differentiate between somatic and germline variants. If there is a possibility that any detected variant is somatic, additional testing may be necessary to clarify the significance of results.

For detailed information regarding gene specific performance and technical limitations, see Method Description or contact a laboratory genetic counselor.

If the patient has had an allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplant or a recent blood transfusion, results may be inaccurate due to the presence of donor DNA. Call Mayo Clinic Laboratories for instructions for testing patients who have received a bone marrow transplant.

Reclassification of Variants:

Currently, it is not standard practice for the laboratory to systematically review previously classified variants on a regular basis. The laboratory encourages healthcare providers to contact the laboratory at any time to learn how the classification of a particular variant may have changed over time. Due to broadening genetic knowledge, it is possible that the laboratory may discover new information of relevance to the patient. Should that occur, the laboratory may issue an amended report.

Variant Evaluation:

Evaluation and categorization of variants are performed using published American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for Molecular Pathology recommendations as a guideline.⁽⁹⁾ Other gene-specific guidelines may also be considered. Variants are classified based on known, predicted, or possible pathogenicity and reported with interpretive comments detailing their potential or known significance. Variants classified as benign or likely benign are not reported.

Multiple in silico evaluation tools may be used to assist in the interpretation of these results. The accuracy of predictions made by in silico evaluation tools is highly dependent upon the data available for a given gene, and periodic updates to these tools may cause predictions to change over time. Results from in silico evaluation tools should be interpreted with caution and professional clinical judgment.

Rarely, incidental or secondary findings may implicate another predisposition or presence of active disease. These findings will be carefully reviewed to determine whether they will be reported.

Clinical Reference

1. Laffan MA, Lester W, O'Donnell JS, et al: The diagnosis and management of von Willebrand disease: a United Kingdom Haemophilia Centre Doctors Organization guideline approved by the British Committee for Standards in Haematology. *Brit J Haematol.* 2014 Nov;167(4):453-465
2. James PD, Connell NT, Ameer B, et al: ASH ISTH NHF WFH 2021 guidelines on the diagnosis of von Willebrand disease.

Blood Adv. 2021 Jan 12;5(1):280-300

3. International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis: Bleeding Thrombotic and Platelet Disorder TIER1 genes. ISTH; 2018. Updated July 2022. Accessed October 6, 2022. Available at: www.isth.org/page/GinTh_GeneLists

4. Megy K, Downes K, Simeoni I, et al: Curated disease-causing genes for bleeding, thrombotic, and platelet disorders: Communication from the SSC of the ISTH. J Thromb Haemost. 2019 Aug;17(8):1253-1260

5. Othman M, Gresele P: Guidance on the diagnosis and management of platelet-type von Willebrand disease: A communication from the Platelet Physiology Subcommittee of the ISTH. J Thromb Haemost. 2020 Aug;18(8):1855-1858

6. Richards S, Aziz N, Bale S, et al; ACMG Laboratory Quality Assurance Committee: Standards and guidelines for the interpretation of sequence variants: a joint consensus recommendation of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for Molecular Pathology. Genet Med. 2015 May;17(5):405-424

Performance

Method Description

Next-generation sequencing (NGS) and/or Sanger sequencing is performed to test for the presence of variants in coding regions and intron/exon boundaries of the *VWF* and *GP1BA* genes, as well as some other regions that have known disease-causing variants. The human genome reference GRCh37/hg19 build was used for sequence read alignment. At least 99% of the bases are covered at a read depth over 30X. Sensitivity is estimated at above 99% for single nucleotide variants, above 94% for deletions-insertions (delins) less than 40 base pairs (bp), above 95% for deletions up to 75 bp, and insertions up to 47 bp. NGS and/or a polymerase chain reaction-based quantitative method is performed to test for the presence of deletions and duplications in the *VWF* and *GP1BA* genes.

There may be regions of the *VWF* and *GP1BA* genes that cannot be effectively evaluated by sequencing or deletion and duplication analysis as a result of technical limitations of the assay, including regions of homology, high guanine-cytosine (GC) content, and repetitive sequences.(Unpublished Mayo method)

The reference transcript for *VWF* is NM_000552.4 and *GP1BA* is NM_000173.7. Reference transcript numbers may be updated due to transcript re-versioning. Always refer to the final patient report for gene transcript information referenced at the time of testing. Confirmation of select reportable variants may be performed by alternate methodologies based on internal laboratory criteria.

PDF Report

Supplemental

Day(s) Performed

Varies

Report Available

28 to 42 days

Specimen Retention Time

Whole blood: 2 weeks (if available); Extracted DNA: 3 months; Amniotic fluid, cultured amniocytes, chorionic villi, cultured chorionic villi: 1 month

Performing Laboratory Location

Rochester

Fees & Codes

Fees

- Authorized users can sign in to [Test Prices](#) for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact [Customer Service](#) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their account representative. For assistance, contact [Customer Service](#).

Test Classification

This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. It has not been cleared or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

- 81408
- 81479
- 81479 (if appropriate for government payers)
- 88233-Tissue culture, skin, solid tissue biopsy (if appropriate)
- 88240-Cryopreservation (if appropriate)
- 88235-Amniotic fluid culture (if appropriate)
- 81265-Maternal cell contamination (if appropriate)

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
GNVWD	VWF and GP1BA Genes, Full Gene NGS	105337-0

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
619202	Test Description	62364-5
619203	Specimen	31208-2
619204	Source	31208-2
619205	Result Summary	50397-9
619206	Result	82939-0
619207	Interpretation	59465-5
619208	Additional Results	82939-0
619209	Resources	99622-3
619210	Additional Information	48767-8
619211	Method	85069-3
619212	Genes Analyzed	82939-0

619213	Disclaimer	62364-5
619214	Released By	18771-6