COLLEGE of AMERICAN PATHOLOGISTS

Laboratory Detection and Initial Diagnosis of Monoclonal Gammopathies

Statements and Strengths of Recommendations

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Guideline Statement	Strength of Recommendation
1. Clinical care providers should order both serum protein electrophoresis (SPEP) and serum free light chains (sFLC) for the initial detection of monoclonal immunoglobulin protein (M-protein) in all patients with suspected monoclonal gammopathies (MG).	Strong Recommendation
2. Laboratorians should confirm a SPEP abnormality suspicious for a presence of a M-protein with additional testing by serum immunofixation electrophoresis (sIFE) or alternative method with similar sensitivity.	Strong Recommendation
3. Laboratorians and/or clinical care providers should follow-up an abnormal sFLC ratio for the presence of a M-protein with a serum IFE or alternative method with similar sensitivity.	Conditional Recommendation
4. Clinical care providers should order SPEP, sFLC, serum IFE, and urine IFE for the initial detection of M-protein in all patients with suspected amyloid light chain (AL) amyloidosis.	Strong Recommendation
5. Clinical care providers should not order heavy /light chain isotype assay (hlc) for initial detection of m-protein in patients with suspected mg.	Strong Recommendation
6. Clinical care providers should not use total/intact light chains for the quantitation of m-proteins in patients with suspected myeloma.	Strong Recommendation
7. In patients with intact M-proteins outside the gamma region by SPEP, laboratories should use total immunoglobulin (IgA, IgG, or IgM) for the quantitation of the M-proteins; quantitation of a band in the beta region by SPEP can be performed if the M-protein is distinguished from background normal protein bands.	Conditional Recommendation
8. Laboratorians should report both quantitative levels of free kappa and free lambda and the rFLC when the sFLC assay is performed.	Strong Recommendation
9. Clinical care providers may use rFLC, IgM isotype, M-protein >1.5 g/dL, and immunoparesis as risk factors for progression to MM or a B-cell lymphoproliferative disorder.	Conditional Recommendation

Abbreviations: IFE, immunofixation electrophoresis; IgA, immunoglobulin A; IgG, immunoglobulin G; IgM, immunoglobulin M; MM, multiple myeloma; SPE, serum protein electrophoresis

Keren DF, Bocsi G, Billman BL, et al. Laboratory detection and initial diagnosis of monoclonal gammopathies: Guideline from the College of American Pathologists in collaboration with the American Association for Clinical Chemistry and the American Society for Clinical Pathology. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. Published online August 5, 2021. doi: 10.5858/arpa.2020-0794-CP