Basophil Activation Test in chronic urticaria

Sample preparation

- A telephone registration for chronic urticaria basophil activation test (CU-BAT) is not necessary.
- CU-BAT requires > 0.5 ml serum samples.
- Serum samples must be stored at 4°C and shipped at room temperature.
- CU-BAT is performed every second Thursday.
- Samples must arrive on Thursday before 9:00 in order to guarantee same-day analysis.

Background Information

Chronic idiopathic urticaria: Identification of auto-antibodies against FcεRI and IgE

Chronic idiopathic urticaria (CIU) is characterized by the occurrence of daily wheals and erythema over a period of >6 weeks. In 35 - 50% of all CIU patients, auto-antibodies against IgE or IgE receptors (FcεRI) can be found. Both, IgE and FcεRI, are present on the cell surface of mast cells and basophils. The identification of this subset of CIU is important for a better understanding of the pathophysiology in the affected patient. Moreover, it may influence treatment of CIU favoring more potent drugs if antihistamines are not sufficient. Auto-antibodies against IgE or FcεRI can be detected in vivo with a test called ‘autologous serum skin test’ (ASST). However, this test is considered rather problematic and not 100% safe for the patient. To this end, ADR-AC has established BAT, a straight forward in vitro test, which is absolutely safe for the patient.

References


Platzer MH, Grattan CE, Poulsen LK, Skov PS. Validation of basophil histamine release against the autologous serum skin test and outcome of serum-induced basophil histamine release studies in a large population of chronic urticaria patients. Allergy. 2005 Sep; 60 (9): 1152-6.