



# Test Definition: DBMD

Duchenne/Becker Muscular Dystrophy, DMD  
Gene, Large Deletion/Duplication Analysis,  
Varies

## Overview

### Useful For

Confirmation of a clinical diagnosis of Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) or Becker muscular dystrophy (BMD)

Distinguishing DMD from BMD in some cases, based on the type of deletion detected (allows for better prediction of prognosis)

Determination of carrier status in family member at risk for DMD or BMD

Prenatal diagnosis of DMD or BMD in at-risk pregnancies

### Reflex Tests

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

### Genetics Test Information

This test is for genetic deletions and duplications only.

If testing is being performed due to family history, documentation regarding the familial variant before testing an asymptomatic individual or proceeding with carrier testing is preferred.

### Testing Algorithm

**For prenatal specimens only:** If amniotic fluid (nonconfluent cultured cells) is received, amniotic fluid culture/genetic test will be added and charged separately. If chorionic villus specimen (nonconfluent cultured cells) is received, fibroblast culture for genetic test will be added and charged separately. For any prenatal specimen that is received, maternal cell contamination studies will be added.

For more information see [Neuromuscular Myopathy Testing Algorithm](#).

### Special Instructions

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- [Informed Consent for Genetic Testing](#)
  - [Molecular Genetics: Neurology Patient Information](#)
  - [Neuromuscular Myopathy Testing Algorithm](#)
  - [Informed Consent for Genetic Testing \(Spanish\)](#)

**Method Name**

Dosage Analysis by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)/Multiplex Ligation-Dependent Probe Amplification (MLPA)

**NY State Available**

Yes

**Specimen****Specimen Type**

Varies

**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.

**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) or yellow top (ACD)

**Acceptable:** None

**Specimen Volume:** 3 mL

**Collection Instructions:**

1. Invert several times to mix blood.
2. Send whole blood specimen in original tube. **Do not aliquot.**
3. Whole blood collected postnatal from an umbilical cord is also acceptable. See Additional Information

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

**Additional Information:**

1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 4 days of collection. Extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 4 days, and DNA yield will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
2. To ensure minimum volume and concentration of DNA are met, the requested volume must be submitted. Testing may be canceled if DNA requirements are inadequate.

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3. For postnatal umbilical cord whole blood specimens, maternal cell contamination studies are recommended to ensure test results reflect that of the patient tested. A maternal blood specimen is required to complete maternal cell contamination studies. Order MATCC / Maternal Cell Contamination, Molecular Analysis, Varies on both the cord blood and maternal blood specimens under separate order numbers.

**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:** Ambient (preferred) <24 hours/Refrigerated <24 hours

**Additional Information:**

1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 24 hours of collection. Culture and extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 24 hours and will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
2. A separate culture charge will be assessed under CULAF / Culture for Genetic Testing, Amniotic Fluid. An additional 2 to 3 weeks are required to culture amniotic fluid before genetic testing can occur.
3. **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:** Prenatal cultured fibroblasts (eg, products of conception), amniocytes, or other confluent cultured cells. This does not include cultured chorionic villi.

**Container/Tube:** T-25 flask

**Specimen Volume:** 2 Flasks

**Collection Instructions:** Submit confluent cultured cells from another laboratory.

**Specimen Stability Information:** Ambient (preferred) <24 hours/Refrigerated <24 hours

**Additional Information:**

1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 24 hours of collection. Culture and extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 24 hours and will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
2. A separate culture charge will be assessed under CULFB / Fibroblast Culture for Biochemical or Molecular Testing. An additional 3 to 4 weeks are required to culture fibroblasts before genetic testing can occur.
3. **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:** Ambient (preferred) <24 hours/Refrigerated <24 hours

**Additional Information:**

1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 24 hours of collection. Culture and extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 24 hours and will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
2. A separate culture charge will be assessed under CULFB / Fibroblast Culture for Biochemical or Molecular Testing. An

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additional 3 to 4 weeks is required to culture fibroblasts before genetic testing can occur.

3. **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:** Cultured chorionic villi

**Container/Tube:** T-25 flasks

**Specimen Volume:** 2 Full flasks

**Collection Instructions:** Submit confluent cultured cells from another laboratory.

**Specimen Stability Information:** Ambient (preferred) <24 hours/Refrigerated <24 hours

**Additional Information:**

1. Specimens are preferred to be received within 24 hours of collection. Culture and/or extraction will be attempted for specimens received after 24 hours and will be evaluated to determine if testing may proceed.
2. A separate culture charge will be assessed under CULFB / Fibroblast Culture for Biochemical or Molecular Testing.
3. 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:** Extracted DNA

**Container/Tube:**

**Preferred:** Screw Cap Micro Tube, 2 mL with skirted conical base

**Acceptable:** Matrix tube, 1 mL

**Collection Instructions:**

1. The preferred volume is at least 100 µL at a concentration of 75 ng/µL.
2. Include concentration and volume on tube.

**Specimen Stability Information:** Frozen (preferred) 1 year /Ambient/ Refrigerated

**Additional Information:** DNA must be extracted in a CLIA-certified laboratory or equivalent and must be extracted from a specimen type listed as acceptable for this test (including applicable anticoagulants). Our laboratory has experience with Chemagic, Puregene, Autopure, MagnaPure, and EZ1 extraction platforms and cannot guarantee that all extraction methods are compatible with this test. If testing fails, one repeat will be attempted, and if unsuccessful, the test will be reported as failed and a charge will be applied. If applicable, specific gene regions that were unable to be interrogated due to DNA quality will be noted in the report.

## Forms

1. **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)

2. [Molecular Genetics: Neurology Patient Information](#)

3. If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a [Neurology Specialty Testing Client Test Request](#) (T732) with the specimen.

## Specimen Minimum Volume

See Specimen Required

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**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**

Dystrophinopathies are X-linked disorders due to disease-causing variants in the *DMD* gene. *DMD* encodes for dystrophin, an integral muscle protein that plays a critical role in muscle membrane stability. A loss or reduction of dystrophin protein results in muscle degeneration over time.

Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) is a more severe form of dystrophinopathy characterized by proximal muscle weakness beginning before age 5 years. Affected individuals typically have pseudohypertrophy of the calf muscles and exhibit toe-walking, waddling gait, and the Gower sign (climbing up the legs when rising from a seated position on the floor). Initial symptoms are followed by dramatic progression of weakness leading to loss of ambulation by age 11 or 12 years. Additional associated clinical symptoms include developmental delay, pulmonary disease, cardiomyopathy, scoliosis and joint contractures. Death is often caused by cardiac failure in the second to third decade. The allelic Becker muscular dystrophy (BMD) has a similar presentation, although age of onset is later with a slower clinical course and milder symptoms. Cardiac involvement can be the only feature, and patients are often ambulatory into their thirties or later. Management guidelines are available for DMD, and several US Food and Drug Administration-approved variant specific therapies are available and emerging, including exon skipping therapies and gene therapy.

As an X-linked condition, dystrophinopathies typically affect 46,XY individuals or individuals assigned male at birth (AMAB); however, heterozygous 46,XX individuals with a disease-causing *DMD* variant may present with neuromuscular or cardiac symptoms, typically milder than those seen in 46,XY individuals. Approximately two-thirds of AMABs with a disease-causing *DMD* variant inherited the variant from a heterozygous 46,XX parent, while one-third of individuals with DMD have the condition as result of a *de novo* variant. In such cases, the recurrence risk is reduced, but not eliminated, as DMD is associated with germline mosaicism at an estimated frequency of 15%.

Disease-causing *DMD* variants consist primarily of large deletions and duplications. Approximately 70% of patients have intragenic deletions and approximately 20% have intragenic duplications. Less frequently, DMD and BMD result from other types of variants such as missense, nonsense, splice site and small deletions and duplications, which are not detected by this assay.

**Reference Values**

The interpretive report will be provided.

**Interpretation**

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The interpretive report includes an overview of the findings as well as the associated clinical significance.

**Cautions**

In addition to disease-related probes, the multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification technique utilizes probes localized to other chromosomal regions as internal controls. In certain circumstances, these control probes may detect other diseases or conditions for which this test was not specifically intended. Results of the control probes are not normally reported. However, in cases where clinically relevant information is identified, the ordering physician will be informed of the result and provided with recommendations for any appropriate follow-up testing.

This test may not detect deletions/duplications present in very low levels of mosaicism

Rare alterations (ie, polymorphisms) exist that could lead to false-negative or false-positive results. If results obtained do not match the clinical findings, additional testing should be considered.

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

**Clinical Reference**

1. Darras BT, Urion DK, Ghosh PS. Dystrophinopathies. In: Adam MP, Feldman J, Mirzaa GM, et al, eds. GeneReviews [Internet]. University of Washington, Seattle; 2000. Updated January 20, 2022. Accessed December 27, 2024. Available at [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK1119/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK1119/)
2. Pickart AM, Martin AS, Gross BN, et al. Genetic counseling for the dystrophinopathies-Practice resource of the National Society of Genetic Counselors. *J Genet Couns*. Published online April 29, 2024. doi:10.1002/jgc4.1892
3. Birnkrant DJ, Bushby K, Bann CM, et al. Diagnosis and management of Duchenne muscular dystrophy, part 1: diagnosis, and neuromuscular, rehabilitation, endocrine, and gastrointestinal and nutritional management [published correction appears in *Lancet Neurol*. 2018 Jun;17(6):495. doi: 10.1016/S1474-4422(18)30125-X]. *Lancet Neurol*. 2018;17(3):251-267. doi:10.1016/S1474-4422(18)30024-3
4. Birnkrant DJ, Bushby K, Bann CM, et al. Diagnosis and management of Duchenne muscular dystrophy, part 2: respiratory, cardiac, bone health, and orthopaedic management. *Lancet Neurol*. 2018;17(4):347-361. doi:10.1016/S1474-4422(18)30025-5

**Performance****Method Description**

[Multiple ligation-dependent probe amplification \(MLPA\) is utilized to test for the presence of large deletions and duplications within the \*DMD\* gene.\(Unpublished Mayo method\)](#)

**PDF Report**

No

**Day(s) Performed**

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Varies

**Report Available**

14 to 21 days

**Specimen Retention Time**

Whole blood: 30 days (if available); Extracted DNA: 3 months

**Performing Laboratory Location**

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus

**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**

81161-DMD (dystrophin) (eg, Duchenne/Becker muscular dystrophy) deletion analysis and duplication analysis, if performed

88233-Tissue culture, skin or solid tissue biopsy (if appropriate)

88235-Tissue culture for amniotic fluid (if appropriate)

88240-Cryopreservation (if appropriate)

81265-Comparative analysis using Short Tandem Repeat (STR) markers; patient and comparative specimen (eg, pre-transplant recipient and donor germline testing, post-transplant non-hematopoietic recipient germline [eg, buccal swab or other germline tissue sample] and donor testing, twin zygosity testing or maternal cell contamination of fetal cells (if appropriate)

**LOINC® Information**

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
DBMD	DMD/BMD Deletion/Duplication	75385-5

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
55261	Result Summary	50397-9
55262	Result	75385-5
55263	Interpretation	69047-9

## Test Definition: DBMD

Duchenne/Becker Muscular Dystrophy, DMD  
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55264	Specimen	31208-2
55265	Source	31208-2
55266	Released By	18771-6