

# NEW HORIZONS — ALLERGY —

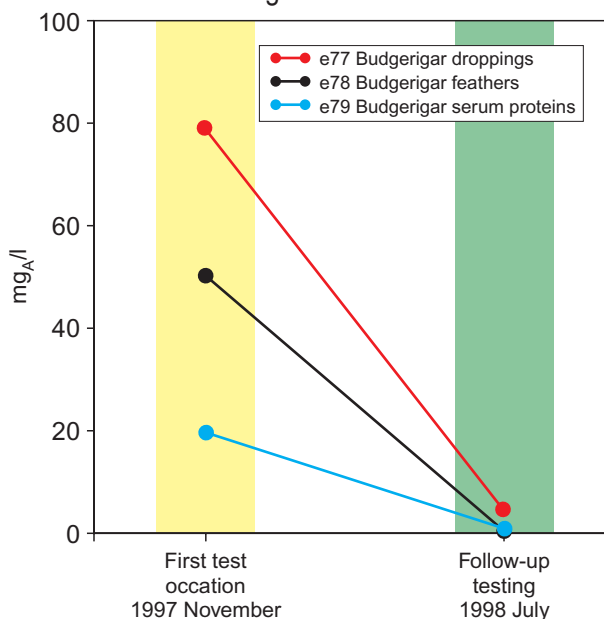
## Quantification of IgG antibodies to mold and bird antigens by ImmunoCAP™ technology in the diagnosis of allergic alveolitis

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### Clinical background

Intense and prolonged or repeated exposure to large amounts of inhaled organic dust can cause allergic alveolitis (AA), previously termed extrinsic allergic alveolitis, which is an inflammation of the lung parenchyma in the terminal bronchioles and alveoli. Farmer's lung (FL) belongs to this group of immunologic lung disorders and together with pigeon breeder's lung it represents the most common type of AA. Exposure to offending antigens elicits the formation of IgG antibodies against these antigens. The antibodies appear in sera from exposed AA patients but may also be found in sera from exposed asymptomatic subjects. Thus, the presence of IgG antibodies in the serum of an AA patient is a sign of exposure rather than a sign of disease. The absence of IgG antibodies against the antigen does not exclude the disease. However, high levels of IgG antibodies in a symptomatic patient strongly support the diagnosis.

### ImmunoCAP™ Specific IgG measurements in serum - a useful aid in diagnosis and follow-up of allergic alveolitis



### ImmunoCAP™ IgG antibody testing is found to have several important advantages in comparison to other technologies, such as:

- being fast to run
- giving reliable quantitative results (mg<sub>A</sub>/l)
- confirming antigen-specific diagnosis
- enabling evaluation of the intensity of exposure
- allowing follow-up testing

### Case report

*A 6 year-old girl with lung biopsy diagnosed allergic alveolitis*

Testing for IgG antibodies confirmed the diagnosis and identified the offending antigen as the beloved budgerigar that was kept in-house for some years. About one year after the elimination of the budgerigar the girl had recovered completely and the follow-up testing showed significantly decreased IgG antibody levels.

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## Product List



### Research tools for clinical applications

Products for IgG determinations in Allergic alveolitis				
Product	Code	Size	Art. No.	Note
<i>Alternaria alternaria</i>	Gm6	16	14-4444-01	
<i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i>	Gm3	16	14-4442-01	
<i>Aspergillus versicolor</i>	RGm25	10	14-5305-10	1
<i>Candida albicans</i>	Gm5	16	14-4443-01	
<i>Cladosporium herbarum</i>	Gm2	16	14-4441-01	
<i>Cladosporium cladosporioides</i>	RGm26	10	14-5306-10	1
<i>Micropolyspora faeni</i>	RGm22	10	14-5302-10	1
<i>Penicillium spp.</i>	RGm27	10	14-5307-10	1
<i>Stachybotrys atra</i>	RGm24	10	14-5304-10	1
<i>Thermoactinomyces vulgaris</i>	RGm23	10	14-5303-10	1
Budgerigar serum proteins, feathers and droppings	RGe90	10	14-5316-10	1
Pigeon serum proteins, feathers and droppings	RGe91	10	14-5315-10	1
Parrot serum proteins, feathers and droppings	RGe92	10	14-5317-10	1
<b>Mixes</b>				
m1, Gm2, m4, Gm6	RGmx6	10	14-5319-10	1
<i>Penicillium notatum, Cladosporium herbarium (Hormodendrum), Mucor racemosus, Alternaria alternata (A. tenuis)</i>				
RGm22, RGm23	RGmx7	10	14-5318-10	1
<i>Micropolyspora faeni, Thermoactinomyces vulgaris</i>				

Note 1: Analyte Specific Reagents

ImmunoCAP™ allergens intended for IgE antibody measurements could also be used for IgG determinations. The background binding of each antigen has, however, to be checked with sera from healthy individuals before use.

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