

# BCR/ABL1 Mbc (P210) IS Quantitative Analysis



*“Patients with the Philadelphia chromosome who are treated with TKIs have a greater chance for survival.”*

**BCR-ABL1 can be found in more than 95% of adult CML patients.<sup>3</sup>**

## BCR/ABL1 Fusions and Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia (CML)

Chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) is a myeloproliferative neoplasm that accounts for 15%-20% of adult leukemia.<sup>1</sup> The hallmark of CML is a reciprocal translocation between chromosome 9 (ABL) and chromosome 22 (BCR), resulting in a fusion gene (BCR-ABL), otherwise known as the Philadelphia chromosome or Ph (Figure 1). This fusion leads to deregulated tyrosine kinase activity that plays a key role in CML pathogenesis.<sup>2</sup>

The Philadelphia chromosome is observed in more than 95% of adult CML patients, 15%-20% of adult acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) patients, 3%-5% of pediatric ALL, and rarely in adult acute myelogenous leukemias (AML).<sup>3</sup> Although cytogenetically all Philadelphia chromosomes appear the same, molecular assessment could distinguish several clinically-important variant isoforms p190, p210, and p230, based on the different breakpoints. The transcript derived from major breakpoint (Mbc), i.e., e13/a2 or e14/a2 forms protein p210, which is involved in 95% of CML but can also be associated with 15% of adult-onset ALL and 5% of adult-onset AML. The transcript derived from minor breakpoint (mbcr), i.e., e1/a2, forms protein p190, which is generally associated with 15% of adult-onset ALL and 5% of pediatric-onset ALL. P230 is usually associated with CML with neutrophilia and thrombocytosis.<sup>4</sup>

Treatment with tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) dramatically improves survival in CML patients and is thus the standard of care for CML patients. The goal of TKI treatment is to achieve a major molecular response (MMR), defined as a 3-log (1000 fold) reduction in BCR-ABL1 transcripts aligned to IRIS baseline.<sup>5</sup> Due to the demand of high sensitivity, reverse transcriptase quantitative PCR (RQ-PCR) is frequently used to assess BCR-ABL transcripts in CML patients in order to monitor disease course and treatment response.

The measured results can be aligned to international scale (IS) to determine if patients have achieved a particular milestone. As more potent TKI is being used in CML treatment, assessment of deep response is urgently needed, since it would be important to determine the safe point to discontinue treatment whereas remission can still be sustained.

## Clinical Utility

Three levels of response are commonly used to evaluate CML status. First, hematologic response refers to the normalization of blood cell count, mainly needed to adjust the TKI dose for hematologic toxicity. Second, cytogenetic response (CyR) refers to chromosome G banding analysis (CBA) or fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH), mainly needed to assist diagnosis of Ph in the pre-TKI era. Third, molecular response (MR), refers to real-time quantitative reverse-transcription PCR (RQ-PCR), mainly needed to measure the reduction of BCR-ABL1 fusion transcripts in order to monitor minimal residual disease (MRD) over time.

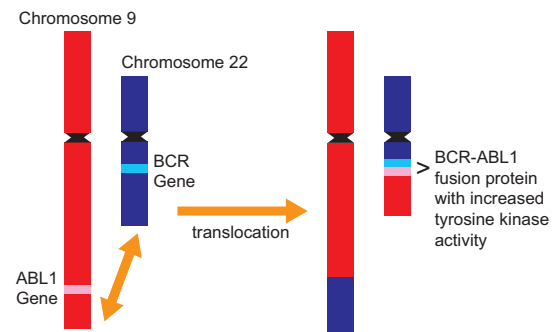


Figure 1. Example of chromosomal translocation/BCR-ABL1 fusion gene commonly called the Philadelphia chromosome


## Assay Description

The assay is designed to quantitatively measure Mbcr transcripts using international scale (IS) to monitor drug response of tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) treatment, which targets the BCR-ABL1 fusion protein. Studies show that a patient will have a good prognosis when achieving major molecular response (MMR), defined as a 3-log (1000 fold) reduction in BCR-ABL1 transcripts aligned to IRIS baseline.

## Methodology

Total RNA is isolated from bone marrow or peripheral blood and converted to cDNA. ABL1 is used as a reference gene to be amplified together with BCR-ABL1 fusion transcripts by real-time RT-PCR. Absolute copy numbers are calculated based on standard curves of each target. Fusion transcripts are further normalized against ABL1 and then converted to (IS) scale using a WHO first reference material (provided by Qiagen, Germantown, MD). The limit of detection of this assay is 0.0025% IS. The limit of quantification is 0.0032% IS. This assay does not detect transcripts resulting from other BCR-ABL1 fusion transcripts that form p190 or p230. The results of this test must always be interpreted in the context of morphologic and other relevant data and should not be used alone for a diagnosis of malignancy.

## Sample Report & Requisition



**Molecular Diagnosis Report**  
1351 Barclay Blvd., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
Toll Free 855-467-2849

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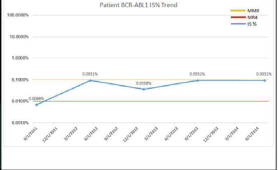
**Thomas, Jefferson**  
DOB: 07/03/1969 Age: 51 Gender: Male  
Collected: 01-13-2017 Received: 01-16-2017  
Source: Peripheral Blood  
Order ID:  
Diagnosis: Leukemia Panel, Lymphoma

**GM17-000000**  
Steven Johnson, M.D.  
ASCCD Hospital Cancer Center  
44 N Francisco Avenue  
Ste 206  
Chicago, IL 60622-2743  
Phone: 000-000-000 Fax: 000-000-0000

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**BCR-ABL1, Mbcr (p210) IS, Quantitative Assay Report**

**Results: Detected**  
BCR-ABL1 IS: 0.00689%  
MMR Achieved: Yes  
MR4 Achieved: No



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Collection Date	Report Date	% BCR-ABL1 (IS)	ABL1 (CN)	Results	MR4 Achieved	Source
12/22/2013	12/22/2013	0.0068%	12000	weak positive	no	whole blood
12/22/2013	12/22/2013	0.0054%	10500	detected	no	whole blood
12/22/2013	12/22/2013	0.0044%	10500	detected	no	whole blood
01/13/2017	01/13/2017	0.0032%	12000	detected	no	whole blood
01/16/2017	01/16/2017	0.0032%	12000	detected	no	whole blood

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**ASSAY DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY**

BCR-ABL1 translocation is observed in over 95% of adult CML, 15%-20% of adult acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), 3%-5% of pediatric ALL, and rarely in adult acute myelogenous leukemias (AML). The transcripts derived from major breakpoint (Mbc), i.e. e13a2 or e14a2 form protein p210, which is involved in 95% of CML, but can also be associated with 12% of adult-onset ALL and 5% of adult-onset ALL. The Assay is designed to quantitatively measure Mbcr transcripts using international scale (IS) to monitor drug response of tyrosine kinase inhibitor, which targets BCR-ABL1 fusion protein. Studies show that patient will have a good prognosis when achieving major molecular response (MMR), defined as a 3-log (1000 fold) reduction in BCR-ABL1 transcripts aligned to IRIS baseline.

Total RNA is isolated and converted to cDNA. ABL1 is used as reference gene to be amplified together with BCR-ABL1 fusion transcripts by real-time RT-PCR. Absolute copy numbers are calculated based on standard curves of each target. Fusion transcripts are further normalized against ABL1 and then converted to (IS) scale using a WHO first reference material (provided by Qiagen, Germantown, MD).

The limit of detection of this assay is 0.0025% IS. The limit of quantification is 0.0032% IS. This assay does not detect transcripts resulting from other BCR-ABL1 fusion transcripts that form p190 or p230. The results of this test must always be interpreted in the context of morphologic and other relevant data and should not be used alone for a diagnosis of malignancy.

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**ASSAY DISCLAIMERS**

The performance characteristics of this test were validated by GoPath Labs or by the lab that performed the test. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not approved or cleared this test; however, FDA approval or clearance is currently not required for clinical use of this test. The results are not intended to be used as the sole means for clinical diagnosis or patient management decisions. GoPath Laboratory is authorized under Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) and by all states to perform high-complexity testing.

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**REFERENCES**

1. Faderl, S., et al., The biology of chronic myeloid leukemia. N Engl J Med, 1999. 341(3): p. 164-72.
2. Rowley, J.D., Letter: A new consistent chromosomal abnormality in chronic myelogenous leukaemia identified by quinacrine fluorescence and Giemsa staining. Nature, 1973. 243(5405): p. 290-3.
3. Suryanarayan, K., et al., Consistent involvement of the bcr gene by 9;22 breakpoints in pediatric acute leukemias. Blood, 1991. 77(2): p. 324-30.
4. Advani, A.S. and A.M. Pendegast, Bcr-Abl variants: biological and clinical aspects. Leuk Rev, 2002. 26(8): p. 713-20.
5. Hughes, T., et al., Monitoring CML patients responding to treatment with tyrosine kinase inhibitors: review and recommendations for harmonizing current methodology for detecting BCR-ABL transcripts and kinase domain mutations and for expressing results. Blood, 2006. 108(1): p. 28-37.
6. Cross, N.C., et al., Laboratory recommendations for scoring deep molecular responses following treatment for chronic myeloid leukemia. Leukemia, 2015. 29(5): p. 999-1003.



**Hematopathology Requisition**  
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**PATIENT INFORMATION (Please print)**

Name (Last, First)  
City, State, Zip  
City, State, Zip  
SSN (Optional)  
Phone:  
Diagnosis:

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**ORDERING PHYSICIAN / LAB INFORMATION (Please print)**

Facility Name  
Name (Last, First)  
Address:  
City, State, Zip  
Phone:  
Ordering Physician: Fax:  
E-Mail:  
NPI: Treating Physician: (MD/yr)  
Report Delivery: Fax  E-Mail  Mail  Website Only

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**COILING INFORMATION**

**Diagnosis Code(s) ICD-10 Code (required):**  
The physician is required to document all applicable ICD codes or descriptions for all tests ordered reporting medical necessity which shall be used in patient plan of care. Example: ICD-10: D61.0 (family hx of CA cancer)

**COMMON ICD-10 CODES**

C85.10	C85.2	C85.3	C85.4	C85.5	C85.6
C86.0	C86.1	C86.2	C86.3	C86.4	C86.5
C86.6	C86.7	C86.8	C86.9	C87.0	C87.1
C87.2	C87.3	C87.4	C87.5	C87.6	C87.7
C87.8	C87.9	C88.0	C88.1	C88.2	C88.3
C88.4	C88.5	C88.6	C88.7	C88.8	C88.9

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**BILLING INFORMATION (Please provide copy of insurance card)**

Primary Insurance:  
Secondary Insurance:  
Place of Service:  
Referring Diagnosis (Check all that apply):

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**SPECIMEN INFORMATION (Please provide copy of pathology report)**

Date of Collection: / /  
Time of Collection: : :  
Status:  Pre-Transplant  Post-Transplant  
Donor:  Male  Female  Autologous  Other Type:  
WBC: \_\_\_\_\_  
Basis: \_\_\_\_\_

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**REFERRED DIAGNOSES (Check all that apply)**

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)  
 Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)  
 Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia (APL)  
 Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia (CML)  
 Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)  
 Myeloid Leukemia (MLe)  
 Myeloid Leukemia (ML)  
 Hairy Cell Leukemia (HCL)  
 Hodgkin Lymphoma  
 Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)  
 Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)  
 Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia (APL)  
 Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia (CML)  
 Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)  
 Monoclonal Paraproteinemia

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**REQUESTED TESTING**

**Comprehensive Evaluation and Report - Spectrum Now®**  
 Bone Marrow  Peripheral Blood  
 Flow Cytometry  Cytogenetics (Karyotype)  
 Cytochemistry, Cytoimmunology, Molecular and FISH analysis as determined by a Hematopathologist

**Flow Cytometry**  Global  Tech-Only  
 Acute Leukemia Panel (ALL, AML, MDS, MPN and CLL)  
 Lymphoma Panel (B-NHL, T-NHL, NK Cell Neoplasms)  
 Myeloma Panel  
 Other

**Cytogenetics Testing**  Global  Tech-Only  
 Chromosome Analysis (Karyotype)

**Morphologic Evaluation**  
 Bone Marrow  Peripheral Blood Smear

**Hematology - Molecular**  
 FLT3  IGHM  CEBPA  PDS  JAK2 V617F  
 CML Residual Disease  In Ref. Refer to JAK2 Exon 12  
 BCR-ABL1 Mbcr (p210)  In Ref. Refer to Mbcr  
 Quantitative Analysis  In Ref. Refer to CALR  
 Lymphocyte Leukemia/Lymphoma  CALP  JAK2 Exon 12  MPL  
 T-CELL Gene Rearrangement  PTCRA  
 Other

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**TESTING PANELS**

**FISH (Check all that apply):**  Global  Tech-Only  
 Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) panel:  Myeloproliferative (MPN) panel:  
 t(1;19) PML/11q23  t(8;21) BCR/ABL1  t(9;22) BCR/ABL1  t(12;21) ETV6/RUNX1  t(15;17) PML/RARα  
 t(2;5) MYD88/CCND1  t(1;12) PML/NUP214  t(3;3) RPN/MECOM rearrangements  t(1;11) MLL/AFK11L rearrangements  t(11;19) MLL/AFK11L rearrangements  
 t(11;22) MLL/AFK11L rearrangements  t(12;21) ETV6/RUNX1 rearrangements  
 t(15;17) PML/RARα rearrangements  
 t(1;12) PML/NUP214 rearrangements  
 t(3;3) RPN/MECOM rearrangements  
 t(1;11) MLL/AFK11L rearrangements  
 t(11;22) MLL/AFK11L rearrangements  
 t(12;21) ETV6/RUNX1 rearrangements  
 t(15;17) PML/RARα rearrangements  
 t(1;12) PML/NUP214 rearrangements  
 t(3;3) RPN/MECOM rearrangements  
 t(1;11) MLL/AFK11L rearrangements

**Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL) panel:**  
 t(14;14) IGHM/11q23  t(12;12) IGHM/12q24  t(13;13) IGHM/13q34  t(12;21) ETV6/RUNX1

**Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia (CML) probe:**  
 t(9;22) BCR/ABL1  t(9;22) BCR/ABL1 (ASX/SH2)  
 t(9;22) BCR/ABL1 (ASX/SH2)  t(9;22) BCR/ABL1 (ASX/SH2)  
 t(9;22) BCR/ABL1 (ASX/SH2)  t(9;22) BCR/ABL1 (ASX/SH2)

**Multiple Myeloma (MM) panel:**  
 t(11;14) IgH/13q32  t(12;12) IGHM/12q24  t(13;13) IGHM/13q34  t(14;14) IGHM/14q32  t(15;15) IGHM/15q24  t(17;17) IgH/17q21  t(14;18) t(14q32)/t(18q21)

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**Special Instructions:**

A signature certifies that the lab is intended to order the test(s) listed above and that tests ordered are necessary for the treatment of the above patient.

**Authorized Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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GP-12-01-0617

## Samples for Submission

Collect 3-5 mL of whole blood or 1-3 mL of bone marrow and place in EDTA or citrate tubes supplied by GoPath Laboratories. Samples MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 48 HOURS of collection due to lability of RNA. Transport specimen using a cool pad to maintain a refrigerated temperature around 4°C. Do not use frozen blood. All specimens must be labeled with the patient name, which must match the name listed on the requisition form.

## References

1. Faderl, S., et al., The biology of chronic myeloid leukemia. N Engl J Med, 1999. 341(3): p. 164-72.
2. Rowley, J.D., Letter: A new consistent chromosomal abnormality in chronic myelogenous leukaemia identified by quinacrine fluorescence and Giemsa staining. Nature, 1973. 243(5405): p. 290-3.
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