

ACT Sheet

Newborn Screening ACT Sheet

[Elevated C5-DC Acylcarnitine] Glutaric Acidemia Type I (GA I)

Differential Diagnosis: None.

Condition Description: Glutaric acidemia Type I (GA I) is caused by deficiency of glutaryl-CoA dehydrogenase, an enzyme in the lysine degradation pathway, leading to elevated glutaric acid, glutarylcarnitine (C5-DC) and other toxic metabolites. Neonatal presentation is rare, but affected patients are at high risk of neurodegenerative crises triggered by common childhood illnesses.

You Should Take the Following **IMMEDIATE** Actions:

- Inform family of the newborn screening result
- Ascertain clinical status (poor feeding, macrocephaly, hypotonia).
- Consult with pediatric metabolic specialist.
- Evaluate the newborn (poor feeding, macrocephaly, hypotonia).
- Initiate confirmatory/diagnostic testing and management, as recommended by the specialist.
- Provide family with basic information about GA-I and its management.
- Report findings to newborn screening program.

Diagnostic Evaluation: <u>Urine organic acids</u>: Glutaric and 3-hydroxyglutaric acids are typically elevated in GA I but may be only mildly elevated or have normal levels in some affected individuals. <u>Plasma acylcarnitines</u> will demonstrate elevated glutarylcarnitine (C5-DC). <u>Urine glutarylcarnitine (C5-DC)</u>: may help identify patients with GA I who have low glutaric acid excretion by urine organic acid analysis. <u>Molecular genetic testing</u> can confirm the diagnosis.

Clinical Considerations: Neonates with GA I typically do not have acute symptoms but can be macrocephalic, most often presenting later in infancy. This disorder typically manifests as an acute encephalopathic crisis triggered by an intercurrent infectious illness, fasting, or other stressors. Rarely children may present with a chronic cerebral palsy presentation without an apparent acute metabolic crisis. Presymptomatic initiation of treatment can prevent the onset of irreversible neurologic symptoms. Treatment includes a diet low in lysine, carnitine supplementation, and emergency treatment during intercurrent illness with the goal of averting catabolism. Untreated late onset GA I (> 6 years of age) may manifest with other nonspecific neurologic abnormalities including headaches, vertigo, dementia and ataxia. Even with treatment all patients with GA I may be at increased risk for additional manifestations (e.g. renal disease). An infant with GA I presenting with macrocephaly and a subdural hematoma may phenotypically mimic shaken baby syndrome.

Additional Information:

How to Communicate Newborn Screening Results

Gene Reviews

Medline Plus

Condition Information for Families- HRSA Newborn Screening Clearinghouse

Referral (local, state, regional, and national):

Find a Genetics Clinic Directory
Genetic Testing Registry

This practice resource is designed primarily as an educational resource for medical geneticists and other clinicians to help them provide quality medical services. Adherence to this practice resource is completely voluntary and does not necessarily assure a successful medical outcome. This practice resource should not be considered inclusive of all proper procedures and tests or exclusive of other procedures and tests that are reasonably directed to obtaining the same results. In determining the propriety of any specific procedure or test, the clinician should apply his or her own professional judgment to the specific clinical circumstances presented by the individual patient or specimen. Clinicians are encouraged to document the reasons for the use of a particular procedure or test, whether or not it is in conformance with this practice resource. Clinicians also are advised to take notice of the date this practice resource was adopted, and to consider other medical and scientific information that becomes available after that date. It also would be prudent to consider whether intellectual property interests may restrict the performance of certain tests and other procedures.



ACT Sheet

Local Resources (Insert Local Website Links)

State Resource Site (Insert Website Information)

Name	
URL	
Comments	

Local Resource Site (Insert Website Information)

Name	
URL	
Comments	

Appendix (Resources with Full URL Addresses)

Additional Information

How to Communicate Newborn Screening Results

• https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/advisory-committees/heritable-disorders/Resources/achdnc-communication-guide-newborn.pdf

Emergency Protocols (New England Consortium of Metabolic Programs) Gene Reviews

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK546575/

Medline Plus

• https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/glutaric-acidemia-tvpe-i/

Condition Information for Families-HRSA Newborn Screening Clearinghouse

• https://newbornscreening.hrsa.gov/conditions/glutaric-acidemia-tvpe-i

Referral (local, state, regional and national)

Find a Genetics Clinic Directory

• https://clinics.acmg.net

Genetic Testing Registry

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gtr/

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