

NEW TEST UPDATE

September 2, 2025

Phosphorylated Tau 217

The National Reference Laboratory is pleased to announce the introduction of in-house testing for **Phosphorylated Tau 217 (p-tau217)**. This implementation enhances our turnaround time and diagnostic reliability for Alzheimer's disease (AD) and the investigation of neurological decline.

p-tau217 testing by Chemiluminescent Enzyme Immunoassay (CLEIA) is [a highly sensitive and specific test for the early detection of Amyloid-beta pathology](#), making it a feasible test for AD screening in clinical practice. It correlates strongly with core AD pathology as determined by cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) biomarkers, positron emission tomography (PET), or post-mortem examination.

Limitations of the test

There are recognized risks of false-positive results, including:

- **Certain clinical syndromes** with peripheral p-tau217 production, such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and Niemann-Pick disease (NPD).
- **Medications** such as Entresto, which can alter amyloid metabolism in peripheral tissues.
- **Obesity** in African American populations, where studies suggest naturally higher baseline values, potentially requiring different reference ranges.
- **Severe chronic kidney disease (CKD)** may cause accumulation and lead to false positives, though some studies suggest these changes are small and not clinically significant.

Testing is performed in-house using the **Fujirebio Lumipulse® G**.

Details for test ordering are listed below:

Test Name	Phosphorylated Tau 217
Order Code	2925029
Synonyms	p-tau 217
Sample Type	Plasma
Container	K ₂ -EDTA Plasma (Lavender Top)
Sample Volume	Minimum 1 mL
Transport Conditions	2-8°C
Storage & Stability	Stable for 3 days when refrigerated (2-8°C) and 14 days when frozen (-20°C) as an aliquot.
Turnaround Time	7 Days
Methodology	Lumipulse®, Chemiluminescent Enzyme Immunoassay (CLEIA)
Rejection Criteria	Samples other than K ₂ -EDTA plasma; insufficient volume; unlabelled containers

For more information, please contact our **Technical Support Team** on CustomerCare@nrl.ae or 800-675.