

# Auto-antibody sequencing in patients with autoimmune myasthenia gravis and pemphigus

Published: 28-02-2017

Last updated: 19-04-2025

The main objective of this study is to characterize the pathogenic B cells and the auto-antibodies that are responsible for causing the myasthenic or pemphigus syndromes. The secondary objective is to generate recombinant antibodies based on the...

<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruiting
<b>Health condition type</b>	Autoimmune disorders
<b>Study type</b>	Observational invasive

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON50392

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

Auto-antibody sequencing in patients with autoimmune disease

### Condition

- Autoimmune disorders

### Synonym

MG, Myasthenia gravis, Pemphigus

### Research involving

Human

### Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** kostenplaats JJGM Verschuuren.

## Intervention

**Keyword:** Auto-antibody, Myasthenia gravis, Pemphigus, Sequencing

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Primary Objective:

- To isolate PBMC from patients with AChR MG, MuSK MG, LEMS or pemphigus to determine the pathogenic B cell receptor sequences.

### Secondary outcome

Secondary Objective(s):

- To generate recombinant antibodies derived from pathogenic auto-antibodies from AChR MG, MuSK MG, LEMS or pemphigus patients.
- To determine the phenotype of pathogenic antibody producing B cells.
- To correlate disease severity and other patient characteristics with pathogenic antibody producing B cell numbers and B cell receptor sequences.

## Study description

### Background summary

Myasthenia gravis (MG) and Lambert-Eaton myasthenic syndrome are neuromuscular autoimmune diseases hallmarked by fluctuating and fatigable muscle weakness. These disorders are caused by auto-antibodies inhibiting the function of acetylcholine receptors (AChR), muscle-specific kinase (MuSK) or voltage-gated calcium channels (VGCC) respectively, which culminates in failure of neuromuscular transmission and muscle weakness. Pemphigus is a group of skin disorders in which antibodies are formed against desmosomes leading to blister formation of mucosa and skin.

Pre-clinical studies currently depend on the availability of patient serum and plasmapheresis material. Moreover, the auto-antibody response has only been studied through indirect experimental approaches. Myasthenia gravis and

pemphigus share (immunological)\_ disease features.

## **Study objective**

The main objective of this study is to characterize the pathogenic B cells and the auto-antibodies that are responsible for causing the myasthenic or pemphigus syndromes. The secondary objective is to generate recombinant antibodies based on the auto-antibody sequences identified. This would result in an unlimited source of auto-antibodies for pre-clinical studies.

## **Study design**

This is a prospective, single blood donation study.

## **Study burden and risks**

Patients will be invited to participate in this study two weeks before their regular outpatient clinical visit. When the patient consents to participate they will undergo regular MG/pemphigus assessment to determine MG/pemphigus severity. After the standard clinical assessment, 120mL of blood will be withdrawn. Two tubes are part of the standard procedure for auto-antibody titre and haematological and kidney and liver function testing. The remainder will be used to isolate PBMC. One hundred twenty ml of blood withdrawal can be considered safe as in a blood donation setting a 5 fold of blood volume is withdrawn without significant risks for the donator. All procedures mentioned for this protocol are part of the standard outpatient clinical visit except the volume of blood that is withdrawn. The risk for the patients to participate in this study is therefore considered low. The patient might benefit from this study in the future as the proposed study might yield more insight in the disease mechanism and facilitates pre-clinical therapeutic tests.

## **Contacts**

### **Public**

Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum

Albinusdreef 2  
Leiden 2333ZA  
NL

### **Scientific**

Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum

Albinusdreef 2  
Leiden 2333ZA

## Trial sites

### Listed location countries

Netherlands

## Eligibility criteria

### Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

### Inclusion criteria

For myasthenia gravis:

1. Males and females aged between 18 years and older at the time of the blood donation.
2. Patient with ocular or generalized AChR MG, MuSK MG or LEMS; and
3. A positive serologic test for AChR antibodies > 0.5 nmol/l or MuSK antibodies >0.1 nmol/l or VGCC antibodies >20 fmol/l. , For Pemphigus:

1. Males and females aged between 18 years and older at the time of the blood donation.
2. Patient with pemphigus subtypes and
3. A positive serologic test for Dsg1 antibodies > 0.5 nmol/l or Dsg3 antibodies >0.1 nmol/l.

### Exclusion criteria

For myasthenia gravis and pemphigus:

1. Any confirmed or suspected immunosuppressive or immunodeficient condition not related to the treatment of MG, including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, or a family history of congenital or hereditary immunodeficiency.
2. History or evidence of administration of immunoglobulins within 1 month prior to the blood withdrawal.
3. The investigator can exclude patients for this trial which are deemed not suitable for any reason.

## Study design

### Design

**Study type:** Observational invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Other

### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting

Start date (anticipated): 23-03-2017

Enrollment: 80

Type: Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO

Date: 28-02-2017

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Leiden-Den Haag-Delft (Leiden)

metc-ldd@lumc.nl

Approved WMO

Date: 22-05-2019

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Leiden-Den Haag-Delft (Leiden)

metc-ldd@lumc.nl

Approved WMO

Date: 23-07-2020

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Leiden-Den Haag-Delft (Leiden)

metc-ldd@lumc.nl

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

### Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

### In other registers

Register	ID
CCMO	NL60336.058.16