

## Allergy Testing

# RAST Type Tests

CPT: 86003

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### CMS Policy for Kentucky and Ohio

Local policies are determined by the performing test location. This is determined by the state in which your performing laboratory resides and where your testing is commonly performed.

Medically Supportive  
ICD Codes are listed  
on subsequent page(s)  
of this document.

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### Coverage Indications, Limitations, and/or Medical Necessity

Radioallergosorbent test (RAST), fluoroallergosorbent test (FAST), and multiple antigen simultaneous tests are in vitro techniques for determining whether a patient's serum contains IgE antibodies against specific allergens of clinical importance. As with any allergy testing, the need for such tests is based on the findings during a complete history and physical examination of the patient.

The multiple antigen simultaneous testing technique is similar to the RAST/FAST techniques in that it depends upon the existence of allergic antibodies in the blood of the patient being tested. With the multiple antigen simultaneous test system, several antigens may be used to test for specific IgE simultaneously.

ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) is another in vitro method of allergy testing for specific IgE antibodies against allergens. This method is also a variation of RAST.

### Limitations

The following tests are considered to be not medically necessary and will be denied.

- ELISA/Act qualitative antibody testing. This testing is used to determine in vitro reaction to various foods and relies on lymphocyte blastogenesis in response to certain food antigens.
- LMRA (Lymphocyte Mitogen Response Assays) by ELISA/Act
- IgG ELISA, indirect method (CPT code 86001)
- Qualitative multi-allergen screen (CPT code 86005). This is a non-specific test that does not identify a specific antigen.
- IgG and IgG subclass antibody tests for food allergy do not have clinical relevance, are not validated, lack sufficient quality control, and should not be performed.

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Visit [QuestDiagnostics.com/MLCP](https://www.questdiagnostics.com/MLCP) to view current limited coverage tests, reference guides, and policy information.

To view the complete policy and the full list of medically supportive codes, please refer to the CMS website reference

[www.cms.gov](https://www.cms.gov)

Allergy Testing

# RAST Type Tests

CPT: 86001, 86003

## CMS Policy for Kentucky and Ohio

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Please refer to the [Limitations or Utilization Guidelines](#) section on previous page(s) for frequency information.

The ICD10 codes listed below are the top diagnosis codes currently utilized by ordering physicians for the limited coverage test highlighted above that are also listed as medically supportive under Medicare’s limited coverage policy. **If you are ordering this test for diagnostic reasons that are not covered under Medicare policy, an Advance Beneficiary Notice form is required.**

**\*Note—Bolded diagnoses below have the highest utilization**

Code	Description
J30.9	Allergic rhinitis, unspecified

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**Disclaimer:**

This diagnosis code reference guide is provided as an aid to physicians and office staff in determining when an ABN (Advance Beneficiary Notice) is necessary. Diagnosis codes must be applicable to the patient’s symptoms or conditions and must be consistent with documentation in the patient’s medical record. Quest Diagnostics does not recommend any diagnosis codes and will only submit diagnosis information provided to us by the ordering physician or his/her designated staff. The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.

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