

Antinuclear Antibody Testing

Indications for Testing
Patient with systemic symptoms
(Arthritis, arthralgia, skin rashes, anemia, renal dysfunction, pleuritic, pericarditis)

Antinuclear antibody
(ANA) testing

Negative

Positive

False positive results may be induced by age, certain infections, cancers, and drugs. ANA may be positive in inflammatory diseases such as autoimmune liver disease.

Possible scenarios:

- No SARD
- False negative result: consider SSc, PM/DM or inactive SLE
- If suspicion for SARD is strong, consider disease-specific antibody tests or panels

ANA pattern

Homogeneous

SLE, Drug Induced Lupus

Speckled

Mixed connective tissue disease, SLE, Sjogren Syndrome, Systemic Sclerosis (SSc), PM, DM, PS/SSc overlap

Nucleolar

Sjogren Syndrome, Systemic Sclerosis, SSc/PM overlap

Centromere

CREST, Systemic Sclerosis