

First, **CoMeD** is not directly involved in any aspect of performing or interpreting the “UPPA” test.

Moreover, though we first list the two clinical laboratories that were used in the published studies evaluating children with an ASD diagnosis (in the “UPPA” web page link: “Labs Used In Published Studies on Children”), **CoMeD** 's role is that of an information provider.

There are other recognized clinical laboratories, which may be able to perform a comparable "urine porphyrin profile analysis" ("UPPA") test, and which, *after vetting them to ensure the test they perform yields profile results and/or has appropriate normal ranges comparable to those reported by LabCorp or Laboratoire Philippe Auguste*, you may choose to use.

[January 2008 Note:

Metametrics: At present, **CoMeD** lacks sufficient comparative data on Metametrics’ test results to make any “comparability” assessments. If any have data that compares the results from Metametrics to those obtained at either LabCorp or the French laboratory, **CoMeD** would appreciate blinded copies of the results so that **CoMeD** may assess apparent comparability.

Great Plains: If any have data that compares the results from Great Plains to those obtained at LabCorp, **CoMeD** would also appreciate blinded copies of the results.

Based on these findings, **CoMeD** would encourage all laboratories actually doing sample testing to engage in a cooperative inter-laboratory round-robin using a blinded urine sample and to report their findings to **CoMeD** so that the issue of the “comparability” of interlaboratory testing could be addressed. To ensure impartiality, **CoMeD** would suggest that AOAC International might be the appropriate independent agency that could be used to administer the assessment and report the findings (<http://www.aoac.org/vmeth/page1.htm>).

*Lacking other published studies where comparability has been established, **CoMeD**, at this time, can only continue to state that the results reported by **LabCorp** and **Laboratoire Philippe Auguste** seem to be comparable.]*

Re: "Labs Used In Published Studies on Children"

With respect to ordering an "UPPA" test from the labs listed under the “Labs Used In Published Studies on Children” link, the following apply:

1. **[UPDATED 30 January 2008]** If you want to order "CLIA-certified, Test#120980" **[note: Make sure that the collection is done under low-light conditions and the sample to be tested is put in a brown (light-opaque) plastic sample container (“test tube”) as the porphyrins are light sensitive]** from LabCorp, you should go through your child's healthcare provider who should either:
 - a. Order the test, instruct you how and when to collect the needed test sample and otherwise administer the test and convey its results and findings to you, or
 - b. Guide you to a healthcare provider who can order LabCorp tests and guide you through the process.
2. Though you can access the French lab (their "ISO-certified, Urine Porphyrin Profile)) through your child's healthcare provider, you may want to request the test yourself. If so, you can contact the French lab using the contact information, which we have provided, and then proceed as the information the French lab provides you directs. **[Note:** the French lab provides an interpretation of the results it finds provided you include the licensed healthcare provider’s mailing information (to whom you want a copy of their findings sent) in the request form that they send you.]
3. The cost of either "UPPA" test is in the range of US\$100 to US\$150, excluding healthcare provider contact charges and any shipping costs. **[Note:** The French lab takes Visa and MasterCard.]

Re: "Other Labs Offering a UPPA Test"

With respect to ordering an "UPPA" test from the labs listed under the "Other Labs Offering a UPPA Test" link, the following apply:

1. If you want to order the test from either **Metametrics** or **Great Plains**, you should go through your child's healthcare provider who should be able to either:
 - a. Order the test, instruct you how and when to collect the needed test sample and otherwise administer the test and convey its results and findings to you, or
 - b. Guide you to a healthcare provider who can order appropriate urine porphyrin profile analysis test and guide you through the process.
2. For **Metametrics**, you may want to request that they send you a urine collection bag for babies and small children without pubic hair since this lab requires the collection of an overnight urine sample. Also, since they use a mass detector to identify and quantitate the various porphyrins, it is important that you follow their instructions and restrict fluids to ensure that the samples are concentrated enough for accurate quantitation of all values.
3. For **Great Plains** [**UPDATED 30 January 2008**]: We have been informed by Great Plains (GP) that they actually use LabCorp to do the testing and then get the data from LabCorp and report the results GP find. Because porphyrins are light and, unless stabilized, sensitive to temperature, it would seem that it would be better to deal directly with LabCorp and cut out the middleman. If you choose to use GP, please make sure that: a) GP or your doctor provides, and b) you collect the sample sent for testing, in an appropriate brown ("light opaque") plastic container ("test tube").
4. The cost of these "UPPA" tests also appears to be in the range of US\$100 to US\$150, excluding healthcare provider contact charges and any shipping costs.

General Remarks

In general, it MAY be best to work with your child's primary healthcare provider who truly knows your child's medical history.

Finally, *if you are willing*, you may want to forward a confidential copy of the results reported and general information about your child's diagnoses and therapy regimen, including any dietary interventions, supplementation, and any treatments designed to remove toxins to Dr. Mark R. Geier, who is assembling a database for use in evaluating larger population patterns. This database will help researchers to better understand the meaning of the findings reported in the context of the large populations of affected children and, when such are identifiable, as many subgroups as the findings support. If you want to your child's results included in this effort, please contact Dr. Geier by email, mgeier@comcast.net, and include your telephone number.

The information provided in this file is just that -- information. It is not medical advice and it does not require any specific action or actions.

While the information is thought to be accurate, no representation is made as to the accuracy of the information posted other than it is the author's best understanding of the facts on the date that this file was posted.

Everyone should verify the accuracy of the information provided for themselves before acting on it.