

MYOSITIS AUTOANTIBODIES

What are Myositis Autoantibodies?

Autoantibodies are immune proteins that mistakenly target the body's own tissues.

In Myositis, two categories are significant:

- **Myositis-Specific Antibodies (MSAs):** Found exclusively in Myositis patients, MSAs assist in diagnosing and classifying the disease.
- **Myositis-Associated Antibodies (MAAs):** Present in Myositis and other autoimmune conditions, MAAs help identify overlapping syndromes.

Testing for these antibodies aids in accurate diagnosis, disease classification, and can provide insights into potential complications and treatment responses.

Important Note:

Myositis antibody testing is NOT yet a universal standard among all healthcare providers. Some may not automatically include it during diagnosis. Having a Myositis Antibody Panel test is a valuable tool if you are being diagnosed with Myositis or suspected autoimmune disease. Not everyone with Myositis will have a positive antibody result.

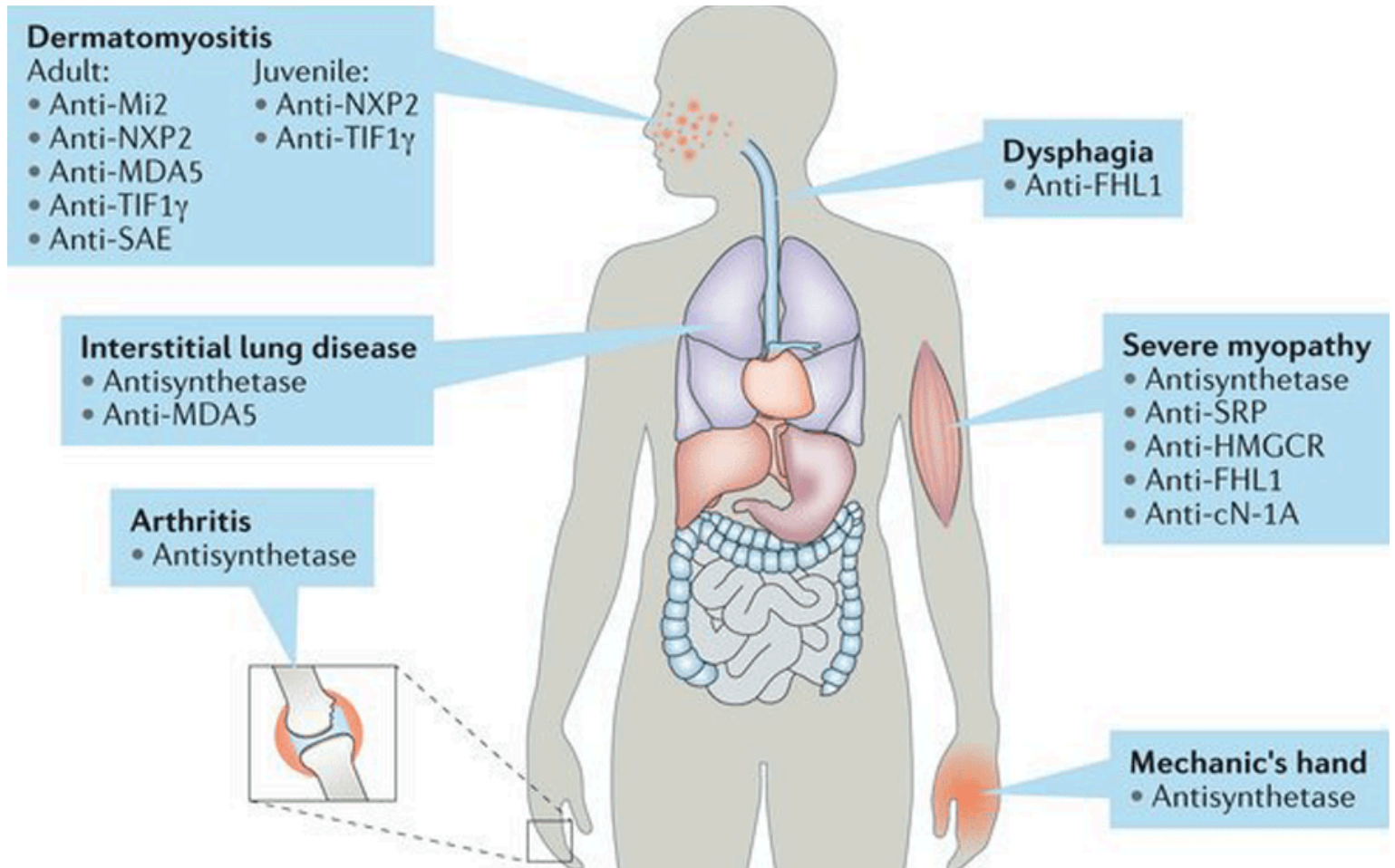
Why Does Antibody Testing Matter?

Identifying specific antibodies can:

- Improve diagnostic accuracy
- Predict disease behavior and risks
- Personalize treatment strategies
- Potentially avoid unnecessary invasive procedures



Types of Myositis Autoantibodies:



Requesting the Myositis antibody testing early in your diagnosis journey can lead to faster treatment and better outcomes. However, if your test come back negative for autoantibodies, it does NOT rule out Myositis.

Where can I find more information?

Myositis Support and Understanding (MSU) offers a comprehensive list of all autoantibodies related to Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies (IIM), visit www.understandingmyositis.org or use this QR code to learn more!

