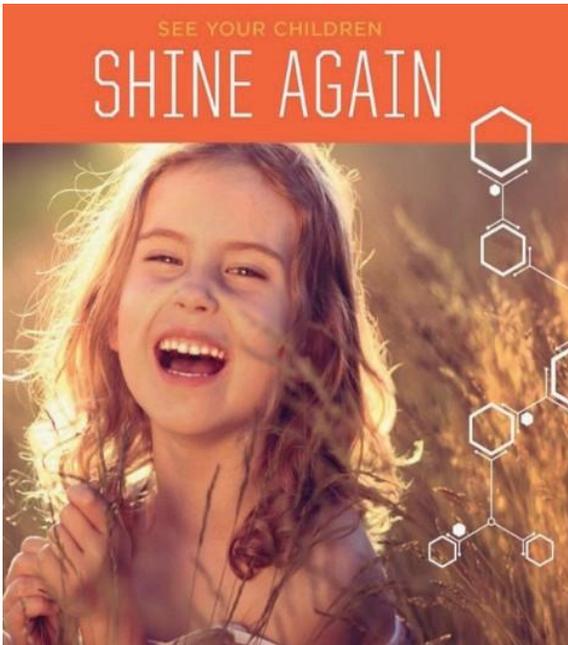


What is PANDAS/PANS?



PANDAS is an acronym for **P**ediatric **A**utoimmune **N**europsychiatric **D**isorders **A**ssociated with **S**trep **I**nfections. **PANS** stands for **P**ediatric **A**cute-onset **N**europsychiatric **S**yndrome.

PANDAS/PANS is a treatable autoimmune disorder that affects children with the average age of onset between 4 and 7 years. (It is possible that adolescents and adults may have immune mediated OCD, but this is not known.) The condition is believed to be triggered by an infection.

PANDAS/PANS occurs when the antibodies the body has made to fight an infection mistakenly attack healthy tissue in the brain contributing to a host of movement disorders, neuropsychiatric symptoms, and abnormal neurologic behaviors.

Parents often describe the onset of symptoms as the day they “lost” their child. Typically the change is dramatic, with symptoms developing within a 24 to 48 hour period. The OCD symptoms and/or eating restrictions begin so suddenly that most parents can recall the exact day and time that the OCD or restrictive eating began.

Diagnosis & Treatment

Often, PANDAS/PANS is misdiagnosed and only its symptoms are treated. To be effective, treatment must properly target the infection and support the underlying immune system. With proper medical care and appropriate medications, PANDAS/PANS can be successfully treated. Testing is the first step to proper diagnosis and treatment.

The National Institute of Mental Health has introduced guidelines for diagnosing PANDAS:

- Presence of obsessive-compulsive disorder and/or a tic disorder
- Pediatric onset of symptoms (age 3 to puberty)
- Episodic course of symptom severity
- A positive throat culture for strep or history of Scarlet Fever
- Association with neurological abnormalities (motor hyperactivity or choreiform movements)

The National Institute of Mental Health has introduced guidelines for diagnosing PANS:

- Abrupt, dramatic onset of OCD or severely restricted food intake
- Symptoms are not better explained by a known neurologic or medical disorder
- Addition of at least 2 of the “accompanying” symptoms: anxiety, emotional swings and/or depression, irritability, aggression, behavioral regression, deterioration in school performance, sensory or motor abnormalities, sleep disturbances, bed wetting or urinary frequency changes
- PANS may start with infectious agents other than strep, environmental triggers or immune dysfunction (NIMH - <http://www.nimh.nih.gov>)

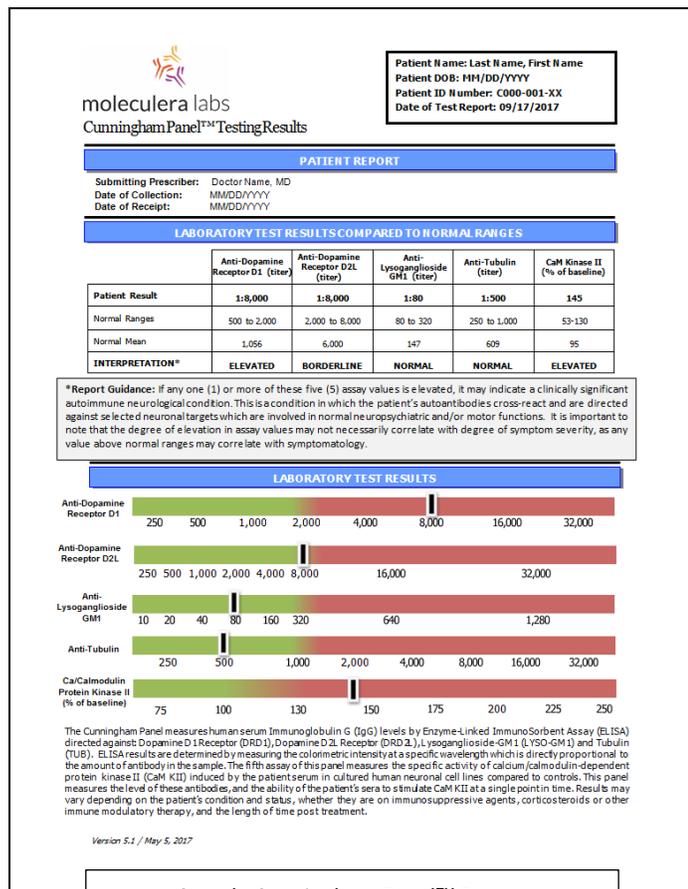
The CUNNINGHAM PANEL™ of Tests

- The Cunningham Panel™ of Tests helps physicians identify the autoimmune antibodies associated with PANDAS/PANS and the capability they have to stimulate and trigger neurologic behavior.
- This allows physicians to differentiate between a true psychiatric disorder and an infection-triggered autoimmune neuropsychiatric syndrome.
- The Cunningham Panel™ measures the level of autoantibodies circulating in your child’s bloodstream. Elevated levels indicate the likelihood that your child’s symptoms are autoimmune.
- Due to the complexity of these tests, please allow approximately 2-3 weeks for your child’s results to be available.

Common Symptoms

- Vocal Tics
- Obsessions
- Motor Tics
- Behavioral Regression
- Compulsions
- Anxiety
- Irritability
- Sleep Disturbances
- Depression
- Impulsivity
- Changes in Handwriting
- Anorexia
- Aggression
- Sensory Abnormalities
- Emotional Swings

To learn more about PANDAS/PANS and testing for this condition, visit www.moleculeralabs.com, email customerservice@moleculera.com or call us at 405-239-5250.



What is the cost of the Cunningham Panel™ of Tests?

The cost of the Cunningham Panel™ of Tests is \$925. Patients are responsible for the full cost of the panel.

Moleculera is the sole testing laboratory for the Cunningham Panel™. We are a very small organization but are committed to doing everything we can to ensure that all those truly in need can receive testing. At this time, we do not participate in any insurance or government sponsored plans. A deposit or full payment is due when the panel is ordered (see details below). If you are unable to pay the deposit or full price of the panel upfront or need to make payment arrangements, please contact our office and we will work with you on a case-by-case basis to find a payment arrangement that works for your family.

Patients covered by commercial insurance (through an employer group or individually purchased plan): Moleculera does not participate in any insurance plans and is considered an “out-of-network” provider for all insurance companies. “Out-of-network” means that we do not accept insurance discounts or allowables. **The full cost**

of \$925 will ultimately be the patient’s/responsible party’s responsibility regardless of how insurance may process the claim. It is your sole responsibility as a patient/responsible party to obtain all necessary insurance authorizations and know in advance what your plan will or will not cover prior to testing. **Moleculera Labs can file a claim on your behalf.** If you would like us to file your insurance, we require a \$425 deposit when the panel is ordered. If there is a balance due after your claim is processed, you will receive a billing statement for the amount due. **The balance due is responsibility of the patient/responsible party.** If there is a credit due after your claim is processed, we will issue a refund to the responsible party.

If you prefer to file the insurance claim yourself, payment of \$925 is required when the panel is ordered.

Patients who are covered by government sponsored insurance such as Medicaid, Medicare, TRICARE, etc.:

Moleculera does not participate in government sponsored plans, including those administered by a commercial insurance company such as Medicare Advantage Plans. **Patients covered by government sponsored plans must agree not to submit a claim for reimbursement from those entities.** Payment of \$925 is due when the panel is ordered.

Information to help families determine what their insurance benefits are for the Cunningham Panel™:

Moleculera Labs is currently unable to perform preauthorizations or verify insurance coverage for our panel. It is your responsibility as a patient or responsible party to obtain all necessary authorizations from your insurance company **prior to testing**. Please visit our website at www.moleculeralabs.com to find information to help you discuss coverage with your insurance company. Under the *Parent & Patient Resources* tab, click on the *Insurance Checklist* link. You will find procedure codes (CPT codes), information regarding diagnosis codes (ICD-10 codes), and a detailed script to guide your discussion with your insurance carrier.

Moleculera Labs is committed to helping patients in need of testing. Please contact our office at 405-239-5250 with any questions.