

ACT Measures the Following Important Markers:



BioReference
LABORATORIES

LDL Particle Number

This new test measures the number of LDL particles. Think of LDL particles as carriers of cholesterol. Cholesterol cannot penetrate the arterial wall without being “carried” by LDL particles. The higher the number of LDL particles, the greater your risk for developing CHD.

LDL Particle Size

The smaller the LDL particles, the easier for them to penetrate the arterial wall. Having smaller particles is referred to as Pattern B, which is associated with a three-fold risk of heart disease.

Direct LDL

A direct measure of LDL is especially valuable in patients with diabetes, the metabolic syndrome, or triglyceridemia.

ApoB

Is also a Better Marker for Heart Disease Risk. Apolipoprotein B is a protein that is present in lipid particles and contributes to plaque formation.

Hs-CRP

High-sensitivity C-reactive protein, a marker for inflammation, is a predictor of a heart attack. A recent study, called the Jupiter trial, found that patients who have an elevated hs-CRP could benefit from statin therapy even if they had normal cholesterol levels.

Lp-PLA₂

An enzyme associated with the inflammation of your arteries. Increased levels of Lp-PLA₂ increase your risk of having a heart attack or stroke.

Lp(a)

To further assess your risk, the doctor can test your Lp(a) level. Lp(a) excess is the most common inherited lipid disorder in patients with premature coronary heart disease. Very high levels of Lp(a) are associated with elevated vascular risk.