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Food allergy has become a problem which concerns many clinicians. Adverse reactions to foods in which the pathogenesis involves an immunological response to food components are appropriately called food-hypersensitivity reactions. This term is considered to be synonymous with "food allergy." Immune-mediated adverse reactions to foods can be divided into distinct clinicopathologic entities based on presentation (immediate or delayed), target organ specificity, and pathologic mechanisms. By far, the most common reactions are IgE mediated and dependent on activation of mast cells in specific tissues. Such reactions are immediate and in severe cases may be life-threatening. Allergic eosinophilic gastroenteritis in some instances also appears to be due to repeated and frequent IgE-mast cell-mediated reactions in the gastrointestinal mucosa. Food-induced colitis/enterocolitis is observed almost exclusively in infants and children and is not strictly IgE dependent. Finally, gluten-sensitive enteropathy (celiac sprue) and dermatitis herpetiformis are due to abnormal immune response to gluten (gladin) that are non-IgE related. Unlike the immediate effects of IgE-mediated allergy, the IgE and IgA-mediated food allergy and intolerance reactions can take several days to appear. Levels of IgM, IgG and IgA antibodies in the blood against different food antigens have been used for demonstration of delayed food allergy and intolerance reactions. Therefore, raised serum or plasma IgG, IgM and IgA levels of food-specific antibodies are often associated with food allergies. However, measurement of IgG, IgM or IgA in the blood may miss abnormal immune reaction to many food antigens. In one instance, it is known that oral or intragastric administration of dietary soluble proteins such as gamma globulin (GG) and ovalbumin or egg albumin results in salivary IgA production but not in any antibody production in serum. Therefore, measurement of IgG and IgM in blood, and IgA antibody in blood and saliva may increase the sensitivity and specificity of the assay.

CASEIN IgG	1	0 - 20	ELISA
CASEIN IgM	17	0 - 20	ELISA
CASEIN IgA	4	0 - 20	ELISA

*** CASEIN ANTIBODIES ***

TEST	RESULTS	REFERENCE RANGE	UNITS
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Patient Name: PARK-ALVAREZ, RUBEN
Patient I.D.: D0808062002

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Blood Drawn: 07/18/06
Processed: 07/20/06
Reported: 08/03/06
ISL No.: 200714

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REFERRING PHYSICIAN