**Results.**—Clinical sensitivity and specificity for QUANTA Flash among all patients (n = 1648) were 62.7% (95% CI 56.8–68.2%) and 98.0% (95% CI 97.1–98.7%), respectively. Among the samples run on both QUANTA Flash and ELiAs (n = 196), the discriminations between GPA patients and controls were similar: 56.1% (95% CI 44.7–67.0%)/98.2% (95% CI 93.8–99.8%) sensitivity/specificity for QUANTA Flash and 58.5% (95% CI 47.1–69.3%)/96.5% (91.3–99.0%) sensitivity/specificity for ELiAs. In addition, good agreements were found between assays: 86.5% (95% CI 74.2–94.4%) positive agreement, 97.9% (95% CI 94.0–99.6%) negative agreement and 94.9% (95% CI 90.8–97.5%) overall agreement. Spearman’s rho was 0.74 (95% CI 0.67–0.80).

**Discussion.**—Large multi-centric studies are important to evaluate the performance of novel diagnostic assays. In our study with samples from various countries, we found good performance characteristics of QUANTA Flash CIA and good agreement with ELiAs.

**Conclusion.**—With the availability of QUANTA-Flash PR3 CIA the detection of anti-PR3 antibodies can now be performed with high reliability in clinical settings where rapid turnaround times (30 minutes) are important.

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**P7**

**Comparison of PR3-specific ANCA assays performance for diagnosis of granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GPA)**

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**Introduction.**—PR3-ANCAs are usually detected by immunometric assays, with purified PR3 directly coated onto the solid-phase. Novel methods for PR3-ANCA detection have been proposed with the goal of improving the traditional PR3-specific assays, although little is known about their diagnostic performance in real-life clinical settings.

The purpose of this monocentric retrospective study was to investigate and compare the diagnostic performance of nine different commercial PR3-specific assays, representative of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd generation tests (direct, capture and anchor assays). The third generation assay, employing both human and recombinant PR3, was also evaluated.

**Methods.**—The study population consisted of 55 GPA, 175 disease controls, including 52 microscopic polyangiitis and 20 healthy subjects. GPA pts were selected on the basis of the clinical diagnosis, according to the international criteria & definitions available. Median age of GPA was 53.5 yrs (13–82), 31 were f. The primary evaluation of test sensitivity was carried out using cut-off points, which provided adequate and identical specificity for each test.

**Results.**—Although sensitivity & area under the ROC curves did not differ significantly between any of the PR3-specific assays, substantial differences in sensitivity at 98% specificity were found in some instances (Supplementary data, P < 0.001).

**Discussion.**—Our study shows that, compared to direct PR3-ELISAs, most of the capture/anchor tests improve the PPV for GPA diagnosis. Indeed, some of the 2nd & 3rd generation assays show a better performance than the traditional direct ones when the relevant cut-point is selected to guarantee the high specificity (98%) requested for such critical investigations. In addition, most of the 2nd and 3rd generation assays make easier the discrimination between +ve and –ve samples due to the reduction of borderline ANCA values.

**Conclusion.**—The usefulness of the new assays in monitoring the disease activity needs to be ascertained.

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found on the website of *La Presse Médicale* [http://www.em-consule.com/revue/lpm](http://www.em-consule.com/revue/lpm).

Table I. Diagnostic performance of each test.

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