

To the athletes and the attending physicians

Information Letter – Genetic Testing of the SRY Gene

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to provide you with important information regarding genetic testing of the SRY (Sex-determining Region Y) gene. This letter outlines the purpose of the analysis, legal requirements, and sample collection instructions for healthcare professionals.

The SRY gene located on the Y chromosome, plays a central role in initiating the development of typical male physical characteristics in humans. To determine whether the SRY gene is present or absent, a molecular technique known as real-time PCR is used to analyze a blood sample.

Please note: This test solely detects the presence or absence of the SRY gene; it does not assess the gene's functionality or identify minor genetic alterations such as point mutations or single-nucleotide variants.

Genetic testing in Switzerland are governed by the Federal Act on Human Genetic Testing (GUMG) and the associated Ordinance (GUMV). According to these regulations, the individual undergoing testing, or their legal representative, must be fully informed about the purpose, methodology, possible outcomes, and implications of the analysis. In addition, genetic counseling must be offered by a qualified physician, both prior to performing the test and again when discussing the results to ensure proper understanding, appropriate interpretation and informed decision-making.

We are happy to support you in this regard if needed. Our certified specialists offer comprehensive genetic counseling services tailored to each individual case. For more information or to schedule a consultation, please visit <https://zlmsg.ch/angebot/genetik/genetische-beratung/>

Sample Collection – Instructions for Physicians / Medical Staff:

Please ensure the following materials and documentation are provided:

- Documentation of the valid passport or ID card for the individual being tested (copy or scan)
- Make a photograph of the individual being tested, this needs to be signed by both, the individual and the collecting physician
- Fill out the order form completely, please assure that it is signed by the individual (or legal guardian) and the counseling physician
- Written documentation of the blood collection by the responsible physician
- Collect 2 EDTA blood samples
 - Each must be clearly labeled with full name and date of birth
 - Mix by gently inverting tubes; Do not centrifuge

Shipping instructions:

- Send samples at **room temperature** via **A-Post** (7 days a week) to:
Zentrum für Labormedizin Frobergstrasse 3 Postfach 1217 CH-9001 St.Gallen

Reporting of Results:

- Results will be provided in **english**
- Reports will be sent by postal mail and as **PDF files** to the **referring physician**, and if needed, to additional authorized recipients via **secure email (e.g., HIN)**

For any further questions or additional information, feel free to reach out to us at: ✉ genetik@zlmsg.ch

Best regards,

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Appendix:

Translation of the part «Einverständniserklärung SRY-Analyse» of the “SRY order form”:

Surname (according to legal document):	Name (according to legal document):
Date of birth	Nr. of legal document
I give my consent for the analysis regarding the SRY gene segment to be carried out.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
I understand that the result, as well as the samples, will be archived for a minimum of 20 years.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
I confirm that I have been informed about the costs of the analysis.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Signature individual to be tested (or legal representative)	Place/Date Signature
Identification of individual to be tested by: (Name, Surname)	Place/Date Signature
Prescribing physician (Name, Surname)	Place/Date Signature