



INTRINSIC FACTOR

FUNCTION:

Intrinsic factor is a glycoprotein produced by the parietal cells of the stomach. It is necessary for the absorption of vitamin B12 within distal ileum

ANTIBODIES APPEAR:

Autoimmune Gastritis^{3 4}
 Pernicious Anemia^{1 3 4}

KNOWN CROSS-REACTIONS:

CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Autoantibodies against Intrinsic Factor are considered highly specific to patients with Pernicious Anemia.² Intrinsic Factor antibodies are rarely found in the absence of Pernicious Anemia.¹ Less commonly, Intrinsic Factor antibodies may also be found in patients with Graves' disease and in relatives of patients with Pernicious Anemia.⁴

References:

1. Annabale B, et al. Lack of specific association between gastric autoimmunity hallmarks and clinical presentations of atrophic body gastritis. *World J Gastroenterol*, 2005; 11(34):5351-5357.
2. Camel R. How I treat cobalamin (vitamin B12) deficiency. *Blood*, 2008; 112(6):2214-2221.
3. Goldkorn I, et al. Gastric parietal cell antigens of 60-90, 92 and 100-120kDa associated with autoimmune gastritis and pernicious anemia. Role of N-glycans in the structure and antigenicity of the 60-90-kDa component. *J Biol Chem*, 1989; 264(31):187668-18774.
4. James D, et al. Cell-mediated immunity to intrinsic factor in autoimmune disorders. *Br Med J*, 1974; 4:494-496.