

## Genetic tests for neurological disorders, 5/13:84

Athena Diagnostics offers new genetic tests to aid in the detection of several rare neurological disorders, including hereditary neuropathy, neuromuscular disease, epilepsy, and certain movement disorders. The lab-developed tests are available through Athena, a business of Quest Diagnostics.

The tests streamline the diagnostic process by using gene sequencing and bioinformatics to evaluate many clinically relevant genes. Test reports provide information to assist clinicians and genetic counselors with confirming a diagnosis, developing a targeted treatment plan, and managing patient care.

The new services include expanded testing for Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, a hereditary motor sensory neuropathy for which early accurate diagnosis is critical to ensure that patients avoid contraindicated medications. Also included are DNA sequencing tests for myofibrillar myopathy, which can lead to cardiac and respiratory complications.

In addition, the company offers new tests for hereditary sensory and autonomic neuropathy, hereditary neuralgic amyotrophy, hypokalemic periodic paralysis, limb girdle muscular dystrophy, benign familial infantile epilepsy, and familial paroxysmal kinesigenic dyskinesia.

Athena Diagnostics' clinical laboratory in Worcester, Mass., developed, validated, and offers the new tests.

**Athena Diagnostics**, 800-394-4493