

| Tests | Practice Setting | Provinces | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------------------|---|-------------|--|----------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|---|-------------------------|-------------|
| | | NL | PEI | NS | NB | QC | ON | MB | SK | AB | BC | NU | NT |
| ANA | University | No restriction reported | No response | Can be ordered by any physician <q3month | No restriction reported | Not repeated if <1month unless rheumatologist; <q3month | No repeat <2 yr; now get a Connective Tissue Disease + panel which screens for ANA+ some ENAs but not given specifics and not qualified - just positive or negative. | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Clinical criteria required | No restriction reported | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | <1yr | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | <1yr | No restriction reported | No response |
| ENA | University | No restriction reported | No response | Not repeated <3 month; not repeated <6 month | No restriction reported | Only if ANA+ | Only if ANA+; have to specifically ask which are positive | Only if ANA+ | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No response | No response |
| | Community | No Response | No response | Specialist only | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | <1yr | No restriction reported | No response |
| ESR | University | Rheumatologists or patients with vasculitis | No response | Cannot be ordered with CRP unless a rheumatologist or infectious disease specialist. | No restriction reported | Rheumatologists and specialists only, limited to vasculitis and a few other indications; hospital will only do if the suspected Dx is PMR or Temporal arteritis. | Rheumatologists only, requires biochemistry approval; limited indications (e.g. vasculitis, lymphoma, GCA); one hospital will only do if the suspected Dx is PMR or Temporal arteritis. | Only allow CRP or ESR | Requires approval | Specialists and rheumatologists only; not with CRP | Can't order both CRP and ESR at the same time; patient must pay if ordered with CRP | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | Cannot be ordered with CRP | Rheumatologists and specialists only, Patient must have inflammatory condition. | No restriction reported | Only rheumatology can order both with CRP | Requires approval; only for GCA diagnosis | Specialists and rheumatologists only; prefer CRP | Can't order both CRP and ESR at the same time; not able to order except by special request. | No restriction reported | No response |
| Vit D | University | No restriction reported | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | >3 months, indication must be justified (e.g. osteoporosis). Only some labs in the province do tests, and only certain specialists can order. 1,25 (OH) ₂ D restricted. | Not covered except for OP in community, free at hospital lab; limited indications (e.g. bone disease); Provincial rules about indications for vitamin D (high risk only); <1year | Restricted | No restriction reported | Only for metabolic bone diseases, some labs charge patient. | Restricted to specialists, otherwise patient pays. | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | <1year | Must have osteoporosis indication | Patient pays if it is not medically necessary; only for osteoporosis or calcium metabolic abnormalities | Need a clinic reason (there is a list, but anyone can order it) | No restriction reported | Specific diagnosis needed; must complete form; patient pays. | Restricted to specialists; discouraged, cannot get 1,25 (OH) ₂ D | No restriction reported | No response |
| Anti-CCP | University | Rheumatologists only | No response | Rheumatologists only | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Restricted to patients seen at University hospital-based clinic | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Patients pay if not ordered by rheumatologist or specialist | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | Specialists only | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not covered in community labs. | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Patients pay if not ordered by rheumatologist or specialist | Not covered by OHIP | No response |

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| ANCA | University | No restriction reported | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Restricted to patients seen at University hospital-based clinic | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Only for metabolic bone diseases, some labs charge patient. | No restriction reported | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not covered in community labs. | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not covered by OHIP | No response |
| AST | University | No restriction reported | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Only for gastroenterologists. Must have indication of a liver problem and ALT must be abnormal. | Only for gastroenterologists. Must specify reason if ordering with ALT. Free only in hospital labs. | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Must have specific request - indication of a liver problem and ALT must be abnormal. | Only for gastroenterologists. Not covered. | No restriction reported | Not included in the liver panel | No restriction reported | Health authority is making it more challenging to order. Must have specific reason. ALT is OK. | No restriction reported | No response |
| HLAB-27 | University | No restriction reported | No response | Can only be ordered by ophthalmologists, rheumatologists and orthopedic surgeons | No restriction reported | There must be clinical evidence to support testing | You can only do once | Only rheumatologist can order | No restriction reported | Only rheumatologist can order | Old results are provided if reordered | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | Specialist only | Cannot be reordered if already done in the past | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Must be a rheumatologist or ophthalmologist to order | Only rheumatologists, internal medicine and ophthalmologist can order. | Need history submitted | No restriction reported | No response |
| BMD | University | No restriction reported | No response | Screening criteria listed | No restriction reported | Reimbursed yearly | Cannot be repeated in less than 3 years except with reason for exemption; only funded q2 years unless high risk; once per year maximal allowed | Only done if within guidelines | No restriction reported | Only every 2-3 years | Criteria to order and minimum 3 yrs before repeat, unless on >7.5/ day of steroids | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | <1 yr | Once per year maximal allowed; limited within certain time periods, depends on risk factors | Cannot be done every year. BMD doc can say need to wait. | No restriction reported | Only every 2 years, age and risk factors | Every 3 years unless exceptional situation; must meet criteria for moderate or severe risk | No restriction reported | No response |
| Arthroscopic knee debridement for osteoarthritis | University | No restriction reported | No response | Performed by orthopedic surgeon | No restriction reported | Not offered, not available for paediatrics | Ortho does not encourage -- not limited but should be delisted. Not covered by OHIP, delayed referral. | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Performed by orthopedic surgeon | No restriction reported | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Orthopedic surgeons rarely do them | Orthopedics only | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Orthopedics only | Difficult to obtain; only done by orthopaedic surgeons at their discretion | No restriction reported | No response |

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| Hyaluronic acid injections for knee osteoarthritis | University | No restriction reported | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not covered by ramq; N/A for peds | Not covered by public plan (the visit and injection). Over \$400 per knee for patient, some third party insurers won't cover. | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not covered by public plan but otherwise not restricted. | Not covered by public plan. | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not covered by ramq | Not covered by public plan. | No restriction reported | Not covered by public plan. | Not covered by public plan. | Not covered by public plan. | No restriction reported | No response |
| Bone scans for arthritis | University | No restriction reported | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not limited but should be | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not limited but should be | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not recommended by rheumatologists | No restriction reported | No response |
| MRIs for knee osteoarthritis | University | No restriction reported | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not available for paediatrics | Not limited but should be. Low triage therefore long wait times. | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Must fulfill specific criteria and complete appropriateness checklist. | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Only if no significant osteoarthritis on plain X-ray | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Must fulfill specific criteria and complete appropriateness checklist. Long wait list (9-12 months). | No restriction reported | No response |
| MRI/CT scan for neck and back pain | University | No restriction reported | No response | Specialist only | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Not restricted but long wait times. | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Long referral questionnaire requiring red flag symptoms and radicular pain | Must fulfill specific criteria and complete appropriateness checklist. | No response | No response |
| | Community | No response | No response | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | No restriction reported | Screening tool by radiology | Must fulfill specific criteria and complete appropriateness checklist. Long wait list (9-12 months). | No restriction reported | No response |

AB=Alberta; BC= British Columbia; MB=Manitoba; NB=New Brunswick; NL=Newfoundland; NS=Nova Scotia; NT= Northwest Territories; NU=Nunavut; ON=Ontario; PEI=Prince Edward Island; QC=Quebec; SK=Saskatchewan