



COLD AGGLUTININ DISEASE

Cold Agglutinin Disease (CAD) is a rare form of autoimmune hemolytic anemia (AlHA), in which cold agglutinins (IgM autoantibodies) cause agglutination (clumping) of red blood cells and hemolytic anemia.

- Episodes of hemolysis may be precipitated by exposure to colder ambient temperatures.
- Episodes of hemolysis may also be exacerbated by febrile or other acute illnesses.



Here's what you need to know about CADF.

coldagglutinindisease.org info@cadfadvocacy.org





- Fatigue, lack of stamina
- Ringing or whooshing in the ears
- Dizziness, shortness of breath, brain fog
- Acrocyanosis, Livedo Reticularis
- Raynaud-like phenomenon



*Usable CBC blood draws for CAD patients MUST BE KEPT AT 37 °C. Warm the test tube with a baby heel warmer or other warming device. Take to the lab immediately and have the blood tested stat.

DIAGNOSIS

- *CBC Evidence of hemolysis (low hemoglobin, high reticulocyte count, high LDH, high indirect bilirubin, low haptoglobin).
- Coombs/DAT Test an antiglobulin test which is almost always positive for immunoglobulin M (IgM).
- Cold Agglutinin Titer of ≥64 at 4°C.
- Thermal Amplitude Test The thermal amplitude (TA) is the highest temperature at which the antibody will bind to the antigen.



