Accurate birch pollen diagnosis and appropriate SIT selection

Resolve multiple positive pollen and food test results
Take the diagnosis and management of birch pollen-allergic patients to a whole new level

Use components for a refined birch pollen diagnosis
Many birch pollen allergic patients are sensitized to several pollens, either due to multiple primary sensitizations or due to allergen cross-reactivity.1-3 In addition, many of these patients have concomitant pollen-related food allergies.1,4

Birch components can help to:
- Identify “true” birch pollen allergy (Bet v 1)1,5
- Clarify sensitization due to cross-reactivity (Bet v 2, Bet v 4, Bet v 6)4,5
- Explain birch pollen-related food allergies (Bet v 1, Bet v 6)1,4

Identify patients for appropriate birch SIT treatment
- Patients sensitized to the specific birch component Bet v 1 are likely to get symptom relief by birch pollen SIT.6,7
- Patients sensitized to minor, cross-reactive birch components only, have less successful outcome of birch pollen SIT.6,7

Improved management of patients with birch-related food allergy
- Due to PR-10 cross-reactivity, patients sensitized to Bet v 1 may react to various fruits, nuts and vegetables (e.g. apple, pear or hazelnut).1,4
- In most cases, symptoms to the triggering food are restricted to oral reactions and the food is often tolerated when cooked.4,8
**Recommended test profile**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ImmunoCAP® Allergen Components</th>
<th>MAJOR BIRCH ALLERGEN</th>
<th>MINOR BIRCH POLLEN ALLERGENS</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• PR-10 protein</td>
<td>• Isoflavone reductase</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Specific for birch</td>
<td>• Cross-reactive</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Cross-reactive</td>
<td>• Rarely occurring as</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Sensitive to heat</td>
<td>sole sensitizer in</td>
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<td>and digestion</td>
<td>patients with</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Indication for</td>
<td>clinical symptoms</td>
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<td></td>
<td>birch pollen SIT</td>
<td>• Sensitive to heat</td>
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</table>

Sensitization to Bet v 2, Bet v 4 and/or Bet v 6 without Bet v 1 sensitization indicates low suitability for birch pollen SIT. Keep looking for the primary sensitizer.

**Did you know that?**

- Birch trees, Betula spp. are endemic to the northern hemisphere and affect between 5–50 % of the population in Western Europe depending on the geographical region.4, 5
- Birches belong to the Fagales tree order and the major birch pollen component Bet v 1 is a marker also for sensitization to other Fagales trees such as alder, beech, chestnut, hazel, hornbeam and oak.1,3
- Birch trees are potent pollen producers; a single birch tree can produce up to 100 million pollens per year.9
- Up to 80 % of birch pollen allergic patients have concomitant plant food allergies.4,10
- The SIT extract chosen for treatment should ideally contain appropriate concentrations of the components indicated as triggers of the symptoms.5,6,11
- SIT treatment is expensive and prescribed for several years. A correct diagnosis is therefore important.
Make a precise assessment
ImmuNoCAP Allergen Components help you differentiate between “true” allergies and cross-reactivity

Make a substantiated decision
A better differentiation helps you give relevant advice and define the optimal treatment

Make a difference
More informed management helps you improve the patient’s well-being and quality of life