

Fully automated IFA analyzer



A different way to be unique

Total automation Unparalleled performance Enhanced standardization





Evolving scenarios and innovative perspectives

Autoimmune diseases and the role of IFA

The impact of autoimmune diseases has grown exponentially both from a clinical and a diagnostic point of view over the past few decades. The knowledge of the pathogenic mechanisms underlying autoimmune diseases contributed to identify new autoantibodies and new diagnostic/prognostic assays have been developed.

Antinuclear antibodies (ANA) are important elements in the diagnosis of a variety of autoimmune diseases, especially ANA-associated rheumatic diseases (AARD), and indirect immunofluorescence (IFA), although it has been in use for over 50 years, is still the recommended method to screen for ANAs.

Specifically, according to the recommendations of the American College of Rheumatology, ANA Task Force, the IFA assay on human epidermoid laryngeal carcinoma (HEp-2) cells represents the gold standard for ANA testing.

Nevertheless, performing ANA testing with IFA is time-consuming, labor intensive and burdened by some unfavorable features, such as the need for expert reading by skilled operators, a high rate of subjectivity and the low degree of standardization.

Laboratories that are testing on autoimmunity have made strides in automation over the past decade; technological solutions have been developed and automated reading systems have been made more and more reliable to achieve improved sensitivity and specificity, to obtain reproducible results and guarantee analytical precision.

In order to further improve standardization of the whole IFA procedure, A.Menarini Diagnostics has developed Zenit PRO, the brand new all-in-one system for the total automation of IFA: not only are reading and interpretation automatically performed but also the slide preparation, thus reducing the effects caused by less trained personnel and differences which might show up in different laboratories.

With Zenit PRO **you will achieve a new level of standardization, increase efficiency and productivity** with a remarkable impact on the overall laboratory management for improved health outcomes.

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A generation ahead in IFA automation

The evolution of standardization

Zenit PRO is the new high-performance A.Menarini Diagnostics **fully automated system** which streamlines the whole IFA protocol, **from slide processing to reading and interpretation of results**.

The system integrates an enhanced module that ensures the **complete slide preparation**, from serum dilution to coverslipping, with an **on-board reading** unit which provides unparalleled accuracy and allows automated whole well digitization for a better interpretation of Zenit IFA tests.

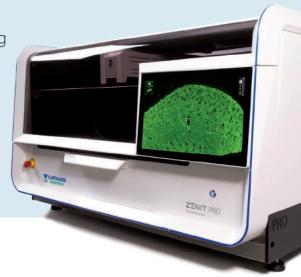
What makes Zenit PRO different are the image autofocusing technology, the software algorithms for IFA detection and pattern recognition, run-time, types of recognized ANA IFA patterns, and its ability to analyze different kinds of IFA substrate.

Thus, Zenit PRO is able to overcome the drawbacks of manual ANA IFA analysis, and it efficiently contributes to the harmonization of the HEp-2 IFA analysis.

An advanced intelligent software orchestrates multiple processes into a seamless, fully automated continuous access system.

Main features and benefits

- · Automated IFA slide preparation and coverslip mounting
- Walkaway process with continuous access
- Whole well scanning
- Navigable well
- High throughput
- Reduction of intra- and inter-laboratory variability
- Full traceability
- Reduction of operating costs





Driving standardization through automation

Integrated slide processing that changes the way IFA is performed

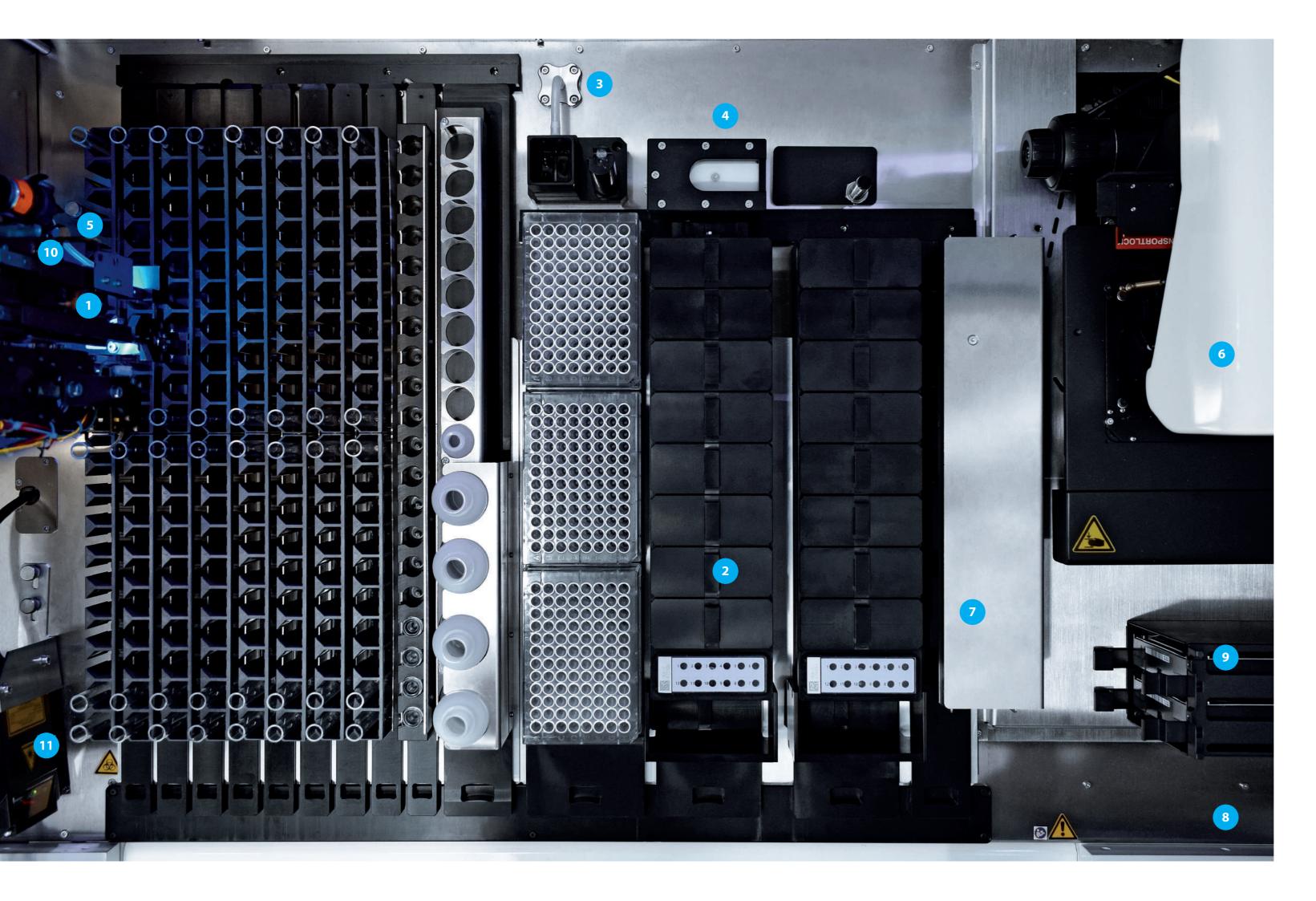
A. Menarini Diagnostics brought engineering and capability to the lab by simply developing the sole system that ensures **the complete preparation of the IFA slide**, from serum dilution to coverslipping, minimizing operator intervention all along a high-volume testing procedure.

The Zenit PRO automated liquid handling system eliminates the inconsistency of human intervention, maximizing the accuracy of the overall IFA process and ensuring accurate sample dispensation, controlled incubation conditions and efficient washing.

Sample Incubation Mounting and coverslipping Slide delivery Scanning, digitization and reading

- Up to 160 tubes: 8 racks with 20 tubes each
- Up to 288 cuvettes: 3 x 96-well consumable plates, 1.2 ml volume
- Up to 20 slots for controls
- Up to 9 slots for conjugate and mounting medium
- Up to 4 slots for diluent









More needles for higher speed

Two dispensing needles and one aspiration needle increase preparation speed



Multiple run

Up to 18 slides can be simultaneously loaded to be processed. Zenit PRO allows continuous access to add further tests while the system is operating



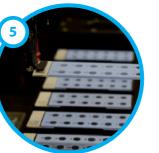
Wash station

can be A wash station ensures both internal and external d. Zenit PRO cleaning of the three ous access needles eliminating carryover



Automated coverslipping and mounting

The system automatically mounts each processed slide. A suction pad places the coverslip and seals the slide, avoiding the formation of air bubbles



Automated slide delivery

A precision clamp delivers the mounted slide onto the microscope precision stage for automated scanning of each well



Automated slide reader

The motorized microscope drives to the substrate positions, autofocuses and scan each well



Slide parking rack

After termination of the reading procedure, a precision clamp delivers the slide into a parking rack to await removal by the operator. Up to 18 slides can be stacked in this area









Advanced and powerful information management for results that matter



As smart and simple as you want it to be

Zenit PRO offers **powerful analytics** and **a simple** pre-defined images only partially covering the area and intuitive user interface that simplify workflows and enable meaningful analysis of results to efficiently achieve diagnostic goals even from the most challenging assays.

Simply powerful

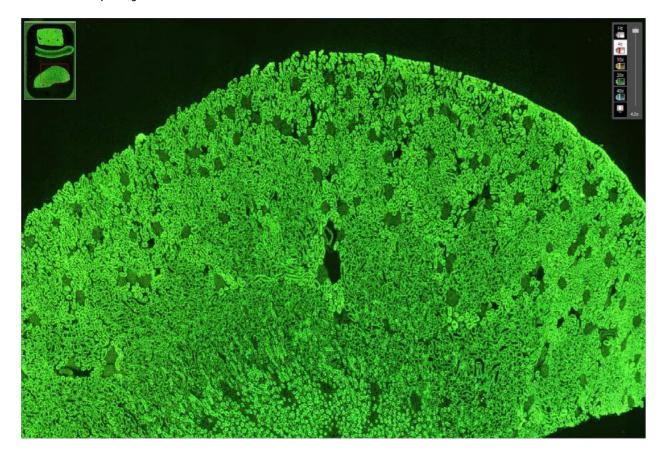
The system can process and scan a number of cellular substrates and provides whole well digitization of any IFA Zenit test: it performs the analysis on the whole well and not just on a limited number of of interest.

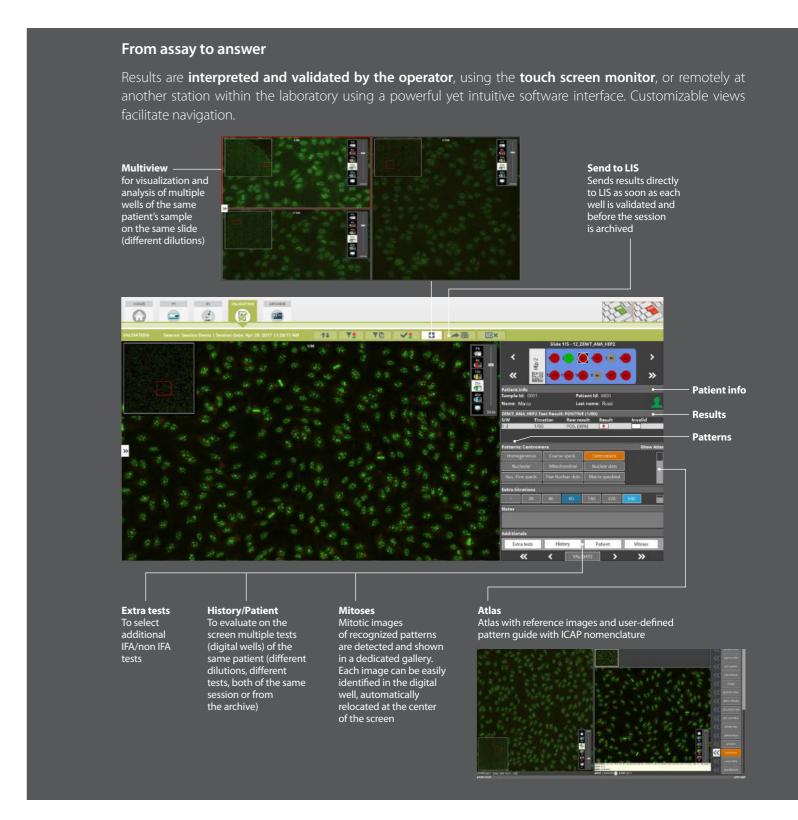
This feature offers several advantages:

- As the number of counted and analyzed cells is fairly large (greater than 3.000 for each well), the results are more reliable and consistent
- Results are robust even in the presence of microbubbles or damaged areas in the well
- High sensitivity thanks to the possibility to adjust cell count and cell identification to detect rare patterns or a pattern displayed by a few cells only.

Full screen view of the IFA test:

The digitized image is displayed and can be navigated with the virtual microscope tool that allows the user to have a broad view of the substrate at multiple magnifications.







Smart analysis software for meaningful data

Add confidence to your results

The system includes the **automatic classification** the intensity of fluorescence for each positive test and of positive/negative results for Zenit ANA HEp-2 tests and the identification of a number of cellular patterns even in mixed cases. The software measures art classifier.

provides a pattern suggestion based on a wide database of reference images used to train a state of the

Additional recognition software modules

Zenit ANA HEp-2 pattern

Homogeneous, Fine speckled, Coarse speckled, Nucleola, Centromere,

recognition

Few nucleolar dots, Multiple nuclear dots, Ribosomal-like, Mitochondrial-like, Mitoses recognition on identified pattern

Smart ANCA analysis software

ANCA positive/negative classification and pattern recognition

(c-ANCA, p-ANCA, Other ANCA)

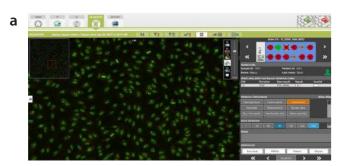
Smart nDNA analysis software **Smart EMA analysis software**

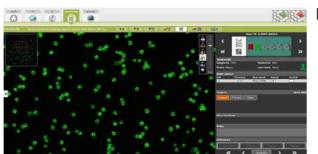
nDNA positive/negative classification

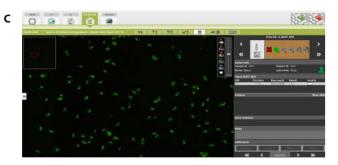
EMA positive/negative classification

Further information available online at www.menarinidiagnostics.com/Products/Autoimmunity

The Smart analysis software includes the automatic identification of a) Zenit ANA HEp-2 patterns, b) ANCA positive/negative classification and pattern recognition, c) positive/negative classification of nDNA and d) positive/ negative classification of EMA.









Technical Specifications



Slide processing	
Pumps	1 peristaltic pump and 2x1,25 ml syringe pumps
Traceability	Samples: Linear barcode reader with focal adjustment Slides: Data matrix 2D barcode reader
Slide capacity	18
Sample capacity	160
Dilution cuvettes	288 (3x96-well consumable plates, 1.2 ml volume)
Probes	3 (2 dispensing needles + 1 aspiration needle)
Slide washing	Continuous flow or multi drop
External tanks	2x2l Buffers; 1x5l Wash; 1x5l Waste with level sensor
Slide reading	
Microscope	Epi-fluorescent microscope. Excitation 450-490 nm; Fluorescence 520 nm
Objectives	4x for pre-focus, 20x for acquisition (10x, 40x optional). Resolution 0.50 micron per pixel at 20x
Optical source	Blue high power LED 480 nm
Image compression	JPEG-2000
Scanning speed (at 20x)	ANA, nDNA, ANCA: < 30 sec per well
	Tissues: < 2,5 min per well
Image and data processing	
Integrated visual display unit on board	15" touch screen full HD monitor
Integrated elaboration unit	On board, 2 hard disks 1TB RAID 10 (1 TB to store data). Operating system: Windows 10
Bidirectional communication	HL7, XML
Environmental setting - Working session	
Temperature	20-35 ℃
Humidity	10% - 60% non condensing
Power supply, Entry level	AC 110-120 V or 220-240V 50-50 Hz
Transport/Storage	
Size	WHD 120x70x90 cm
Weight	Approx 150 kg
Temperature	From -20 to 60 °C
Humidity	90% RH max. (non condensing)
Optional Modules	
Remote station	Client access to archive and validation modules
ANA HEp-2 pattern recognition	Homogeneous, Fine speckled, Coarse speckled, Nucleolar, Centromere, Few nuclear dots, Multiple nuclear dots, Ribosomal-like, Mitochondrial-like. Mitoses recognition on identified patterns.
Smart ANCA analysis software	ANCA positive/negative classification and pattern recognition (c-ANCA, p-ANCA, other-ANCA)
Smart nDNA analysis software	nDNA positive/negative classification
Smart EMA analysis software	EMA positive/negative classification



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