

Moderator: How common is the negative ANA in lupus, when blood work may be slightly elevated and many other lupus symptoms are present. ?

Dr. Liang: There are some people who have a zero negative ANA with lupus, but if you look at the cell substrate you can usually get one of those to light up. There are other ways to do ANA, so by completing ANA with multiple means; it is more likely to turn up positive (if you are positive). It is very unusual to have a negative ANA (and be positive), but it happens.