**FUNCTION:**

Intrinsic factor is a glycoprotein produced by the parietal cells of the stomach. It is necessary for the absorption of vitamin B12 within distal ileum.

**ANTIBODIES APPEAR:**

- Autoimmune Gastritis\(^3\)\(^4\)
- Pernicious Anemia\(^1\)\(^3\)\(^4\)

**CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE:**

Autoantibodies against Intrinsic Factor are considered highly specific to patients with Pernicious Anemia.\(^2\) Intrinsic Factor antibodies are rarely found in the absence of Pernicious Anemia.\(^1\) Less commonly, Intrinsic Factor antibodies may also be found in patients with Graves’ disease and in relatives of patients with Pernicious Anemia.\(^4\)

**REFERENCES:**