

Rapid Response®

Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette (Urine/Serum)

REF HCG-3C25, HCG-3C50

Product Insert

A rapid test for the qualitative detection of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG) in human urine or serum specimens.

For professional *in vitro* diagnostic use only.

Intended Use

The Rapid Response® Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette is a rapid visual immunoassay for the qualitative, presumptive detection of human chorionic gonadotropin in human urine or serum specimens. This kit is intended for use as an aid in the early detection of pregnancy.

Introduction

Human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG), a glycoprotein hormone secreted by viable placental tissue during pregnancy, is excreted in urine approximately 20 days after the last menstrual period. hCG levels rise rapidly, reaching peak levels after 60-80 days. The appearance of hCG in urine soon after conception and its rapid rise in concentration makes it an ideal marker for the early detection and confirmation of pregnancy. However, elevated hCG levels are frequently associated with trophoblastic and non-trophoblastic neoplasms and hence these conditions should be considered before a diagnosis of pregnancy can be made.

Principle

The Rapid Response® Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette detects human chorionic gonadotropin through visual interpretation of colour development in the internal strip. Anti-hCG antibodies are immobilized on the test region of the membrane, and anti-mouse antibodies immobilized on the control region. During testing, the specimen reacts with anti-hCG antibodies conjugated to coloured particles and precoated onto the sample pad of the strip. The mixture then migrates through the membrane by capillary action and interacts with reagents on the membrane. If there is sufficient hCG in the specimen, a coloured line will form at the test region of the membrane. The presence of this coloured line indicates a positive result, while its absence indicates a negative result. The appearance of a coloured line at the control region serves as a procedural control, indicating that the proper volume of specimen has been added and membrane wicking has occurred.

Precautions

- For professional *in vitro* diagnostic use only.
- Do not use after the expiration date indicated on the package. Do not use the test if the foil pouch is damaged. Do not reuse tests.

- This kit contains products of animal origin. Certified knowledge of the origin and/or sanitary state of the animals does not completely guarantee the absence of transmissible pathogenic agents. It is therefore, recommended that these products be treated as potentially infectious, and handled by observing usual safety precautions (e.g., do not ingest or inhale).
- Avoid cross-contamination of specimens by using a new specimen collection container for each specimen obtained.
- Read the entire procedure carefully prior to testing.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke in the area where the specimens and kits are handled. Handle all specimens as if they contain infectious agents. Observe established precautions against microbiological hazards throughout the procedure and follow standard procedures for the proper disposal of specimens. Wear protective clothing such as laboratory coats, disposable gloves and eye protection when specimens are assayed.
- Humidity and temperature can adversely affect results.
- Used testing materials should be discarded according to local regulations.

Storage and Stability

- The kit should be stored at 2-30°C (36-86°F) until the expiry date printed on the sealed pouch.
- The test must remain in the sealed pouch until use.
- DO NOT FREEZE.**
- Care should be taken to protect the components of the kit from contamination. Do not use if there is evidence of microbial contamination or precipitation. Biological contamination of dispensing equipments, containers or reagents can lead to false results.

Materials

Materials provided

- Individually packed test devices
- Product insert
- Disposable pipettes

Materials required but not provided

- Specimen collection container
- Timer
- Centrifuge

Collection and Storage of Specimens

- The Rapid Response® Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette is intended for use with human urine or serum specimens only.
- Although urine specimens from any time of day can be used, first morning urine specimens are preferable as they contain the highest concentration of hCG.
- Only clear specimens are recommended for use with this test. Serum should be separated as soon as possible to avoid hemolysis.
- Turbid specimens should be centrifuged, filtered, or allowed to settle and only the clear supernatant should be

used for testing.

- Collected urine/serum specimens must be put in clean, dry containers.
- Perform testing immediately after specimen collection. Do not leave specimens at room temperature for prolonged periods. Specimens may be stored at 2-8°C (36-46°F) for up to 48 hours. For long term storage, specimens should be kept below -20°C (-4°F).
- Bring specimens to room temperature prior to testing. Frozen specimens must be completely thawed and mixed well prior to testing. Avoid repeated freezing and thawing of specimens.
- If specimens are to be shipped, pack them in compliance with all applicable regulations for transportation of etiological agents.
- Icteric, lipemic, hemolysed, heat treated and contaminated sera may cause erroneous results

Test Procedure

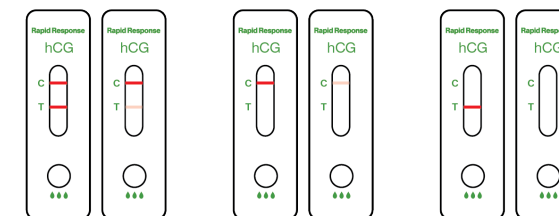
Bring tests, specimens, and/or controls to room temperature (15-30°C; 59-86°F) before use.



- Remove the test from its sealed pouch, and place it on a clean, level surface. Label the device with patient or control identification. For best results the assay should be performed within one hour. (See illustration 1).
- Add 3 drops of specimen (approximately 120 µL) directly into the specimen well (S) and start the timer. **Avoid trapping air bubbles in the specimen well (S), and do not add any solution to the result area.** As the test begins to work, colour will migrate across the result area in the center of the device. (See illustration 2).
- Wait for the coloured line(s) to appear. The result should be read at 5 minutes. Do not interpret the result after 10 minutes. (See illustration 3).

NOTE: Low hCG concentrations may produce very weak T lines after a prolonged period of time. Therefore, do not interpret the result after 10 minutes.

Results Interpretation



Positive

Negative

Invalid

POSITIVE: Two coloured lines appear on the membrane. One line appears in the control region (C) and another line appears in the test region (T).

NEGATIVE: Only one coloured line appears, in the control region (C). No apparent coloured line appears in the test region (T).

INVALID: Control line fails to appear. Results from any test which has not produced a control line at the specified read time must be discarded. Please review the procedure and repeat with a new test. If the problem persists, discontinue using the kit immediately and contact your local distributor.

NOTE:

- The intensity of colour in the test region (T) may vary depending on the concentration of analytes present in the specimen. Therefore, any shade of colour in the test region should be considered positive. Note that this is a qualitative test only and cannot determine the concentration of analytes in the specimen.
- Insufficient specimen volume, incorrect operating procedure or expired tests are the most likely reasons for control line failure.

Quality Control

- Internal procedural controls are included in the test. A coloured line appearing in the control region (C) is considered an internal positive procedural control, confirming sufficient specimen volume and correct procedural technique.
- External controls are not supplied with this kit. It is recommended that positive and negative controls be tested as a good laboratory practice to confirm the test procedure and to verify proper test performance.

Limitations

- The Rapid Response® Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette is for professional *in vitro* diagnostic use and should only be used for the qualitative detection of human chorionic gonadotropin.
- Very dilute urine specimens, exhibiting low specific gravity, may not contain representative levels of hCG. If pregnancy is suspected after a negative result, a first morning urine

- sample should be obtained 48-72 hours later and tested.
- Very low levels of hCG (less than 50 mIU/mL) are present in urine or serum shortly after implantation. However, because a significant number of first trimester pregnancies terminate for natural reasons, a test result that is weakly positive should be interpreted in conjunction with other clinical and laboratory data.
- A number of conditions other than pregnancy, including trophoblastic disease and certain non-trophoblastic neoplasms including testicular tumors, prostate cancer, breast cancer, and lung cancer, cause elevated levels of hCG (>10 mIU/mL). Therefore, the presence of hCG in urine/serum as determined by using the Rapid Response® Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette should not be used to diagnose pregnancy unless these conditions have been ruled out.
- When hCG levels are below the minimum detection level of the test, a false negative result may be obtained. If pregnancy is suspected after a negative result, a first morning urine specimen should be collected 48-72 hours later and tested. If pregnancy is suspected and the test continues to produce negative results, see a physician for further diagnosis.
- As with any assay employing mouse antibodies, the possibility exists for interference by human anti-mouse antibodies (HAMA) in the specimen. Specimens from patients who have received preparations of monoclonal antibodies for diagnosis or therapy may contain HAMA. Such specimens may cause false positive or false negative results.
- As all diagnostic tests, a confirmed pregnancy diagnosis should only be made by a physician after all clinical and laboratory findings have been evaluated.

Expected Values

hCG concentration in pregnant women rises very rapidly after implantation, reaching a peak concentration in excess of 200IU/mL about 2-3 months after the last menstrual period. The Rapid Response® Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette has a sensitivity of 20 mIU/mL for urine/serum and is capable of detecting pregnancy as early as 1 day after the first missed menses. Reportedly, a level of 20 mIU/mL or more, is present 7-10 days after conception or 4-5 days prior to the first missed menses. Test results which appear as very light lines in the test region are not definitive for the diagnosis of pregnancy. It is strongly recommended that an additional urine/serum specimen be obtained after 48-72 hours and tested again. Patients suspected to be pregnant but showing negative test results should be re-tested with first morning specimens obtained 48-72 hours later.

Performance Characteristics

Table: Rapid Response™ Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette (Urine) vs. EIA (Urine)

Relative Sensitivity: >99.9% (97.2%-100.0%)*		Rapid Response™ Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette		
Relative Specificity: >99.9% (98.0%-100.0%)*		+	-	Total
Overall Agreement: >99.9% (98.8%-100.0%)*		+ 130	0	130
*95% Confidence Interval		- 0	178	178
		130	178	308

Table: Rapid Response™ Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette (Serum) vs. EIA (Serum)

Relative Sensitivity: >99.9% (97.8%-100.0%)*		Rapid Response® Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette		
Relative Specificity: >99.9% (98.5%-100.0%)*		+	-	Total
Overall Agreement: >99.9% (99.1%-100.0%)*		+ 169	0	169
*95% Confidence Interval		- 0	250	250
		169	250	419

Specificity

The specificity of the Rapid Response® Pregnancy Combo Test Cassette was determined in cross reactivity studies with known amounts of Luteinizing Hormone (hLH), Follicle Stimulating Hormone (hFSH) and Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (hTSH). 300 mIU/mL hLH, 1000 mIU/mL hFSH and 1000 µIU/mL hTSH all gave negative results.

Interference Testing

The following substances were added to hCG free and urine samples spiked with 20 mIU/mL hCG. None of the substances interfered with the assay at the listed concentrations.










Acetaminophen	20 mg/dl	Acetylsalicylic Acid	20 mg/dl
Ascorbic Acid	20 mg/dl	Atropine	20 mg/dl
Caffeine	20 mg/dl	Gentisic Acid	20 mg/dl
Glucose	2 g/dl	Hemoglobin	1 mg/dl


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Glossary of Symbols

 Consult instructions for use	 Test per Kit	 Authorized Representative
 Store between 36°F to 86°F (2-30°C)	 Use by	 Do Not Reuse
 Lot Number	 For <i>in vitro</i> diagnostic use only	 Catalogue #

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