

**Clostridium difficile GDH+ Toxin A +Toxin B
Combo Rapid Test Cassette (Feces)
Package Insert**

A rapid diagnostic test for the detection of *Clostridium difficile* GDH, Toxin A and Toxin B antigens in human feces samples.

For *in vitro* professional use only.

【INTENDED USE】

The *Clostridium difficile* GDH +Toxin A +Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette (Feces) is a rapid chromatographic immunoassay for the qualitative detection of *Clostridium difficile* GDH, Toxin A and Toxin B antigens in the human feces specimen.

【SUMMARY】

Clostridium difficile is an anaerobic bacteria acting as an opportunistic pathogen; it grows in the intestine when the normal flora has been altered by treatment with antibiotics.^{1,2,3} Toxinogenic strains of *Clostridium difficile* cause infections from mild-diarrhea to pseudomembranous colitis, potentially leading to death.⁴

Disease is caused by two toxins produced by toxinogenic strains of *C.difficile*: Toxin A (tissue-damaging enterotoxin) and Toxin B (cytotoxin). Some strains produce both toxins A and B, some others produce Toxin B only. The potential role of a third (binary) toxin in pathogenicity is still debated.⁴

The use of Glutamate Dehydrogenase (GDH) as an antigen marker of *C.difficile* proliferation has been shown to be very effective because all strains produce high amount of this enzyme.^{5,6} *Clostridium difficile* GDH+ Toxin A +Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette allows the detection of GDH, Toxin A and Toxin B specific to *C. difficile* in fecal specimen.

【PRINCIPLE】

Clostridium difficile Rapid Test Cassette detects three distinct antigens in fecal specimens for *C. difficile*, viz., GDH, Toxin A and Toxin B on three different test strips in a single test cassette, thus simultaneously detecting three antigens specific of *Clostridium difficile*.

For *C. difficile*-specific GDH Testing

The membrane is precoated with anti-*C.diff.* GDH antibody on the test line region. During testing, the specimen reacts with the particle coated with anti-*C.diff* GDH antibody. The mixture migrates upward on the membrane chromatographically by capillary action to react with anti-*C.diff* GDH antibody on the membrane and generate a colored line.

For *C. difficile*-specific Toxin A Testing

The membrane is precoated with anti-*C.diff.* Toxin A antibody on the test line region. During testing, the specimen reacts with the particle coated with anti-*C.diff* Toxin A antibody. The mixture migrates upward on the membrane chromatographically by capillary action to react with anti-*C.diff* Toxin A antibody on the membrane and generate a colored line. The presence of this colored line in the test line region indicates a positive result, while its absence indicates a negative result.

For *C. difficile*-specific Toxin B Testing

The membrane is precoated with anti-*C.diff* Toxin B antibody on the test line region. During testing, the specimen reacts with the particle coated with anti-*C.diff* Toxin B antibody. The mixture migrates upward on the membrane chromatographically by capillary action to react with anti-*C.diff* Toxin B antibody on the membrane and generate a colored line. The presence of this colored line in the test line region indicates a positive result, while its absence indicates a negative result.

To serve as a procedural control, a colored line will always appear in the control line region of all the three test strips, indicating that the proper volume of specimen has been added and membrane wicking has occurred.

【REAGENTS】

The test cassette contains anti-*Clostridium difficile* GDH, anti-*Clostridium difficile* Toxin A and anti-*Clostridium difficile* Toxin B antibody coated particles anti-*Clostridium difficile* GDH, anti-*Clostridium difficile* Toxin A and anti-*Clostridium difficile* Toxin B coated on the membrane.

【PRECAUTIONS】

- For professional *in vitro* diagnostic use only. Do not use after expiration date.
- The test should remain in the sealed pouch until use.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke in the area where the specimens or kits are handled.
- Handle all specimens as if they contain infectious agents. Observe established precautions against microbiological hazards throughout all procedures and follow the standard procedures for proper disposal of specimens.
- Wear protective clothing such as laboratory coats, disposable gloves and eye protection when specimens are assayed.
- The used test should be discarded according to local regulations.
- Humidity and temperature can adversely affect results.

【STORAGE AND STABILITY】

Store as packaged at room temperature or refrigerated (2-30°C). The test is stable through the expiration date printed on the sealed pouch. The test must remain in the sealed pouch until use.

DO NOT FREEZE. Do not use beyond the expiration date

【SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION】

The stool specimens must be tested as soon as possible after collection. If necessary, original feces specimen could be stored at 2-8°C for 3 days or -20°C for longer periods of time; extracted specimen in buffer could be stored at 2-8°C for 1 week or -20°C for longer periods of time. Make sure that the specimens are not treated with solutions containing formaldehyde or its derivatives.

【MATERIAL】

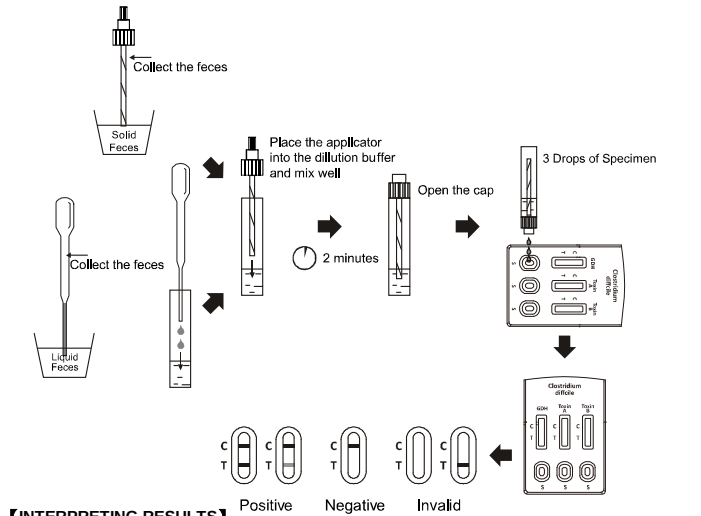
- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| | Materials provided |
| • Test cassettes | • Package Insert |
| • Droppers | • Specimen collection tube with buffer |
| | Materials required but not provided |
| • Stool containers | • Timer |
| | • Centrifuge |

【PROCEDURE】

Allow the test, specimen, collection buffer and/or control to equilibrate to room temperature (15-30°C) prior to testing.

- To collect fecal specimens:
Collect sufficient quantity of feces (1-2mL or 1-2g) in a clean, dry specimen collection container to obtain enough antigens (if present). Best results will be obtained if the assay is performed within 6 hours after collection. Specimen collected may be stored for 3 days at 2-8°C if not tested within 6 hours. For long term storage, specimens should be kept below -20°C.
- To process fecal specimens:

- For **Solid Specimens**:
Unscrew the cap of the specimen collection tube, then randomly **stab the specimen collection applicator into the fecal specimen at least 3 different sites** to collect approximately **50 mg of feces** (equivalent to 1/4 of a pea). Do not scoop the fecal specimen.
 - For **Liquid Specimens**:
Hold the dropper vertically, aspirate fecal specimens, and then transfer **2 drops of the liquid specimen** (approximately 80 µL) into the specimen collection tube containing the extraction buffer.
- Tighten the cap onto the specimen collection tube, and then **shake the specimen collection tube vigorously** to mix the specimen and the extraction buffer. Leave the collection tube for reaction for 2 minutes.
- Bring the pouch to room temperature before opening it. Remove the test cassette from the foil pouch and use it as soon as possible. Best results will be obtained if the test is performed immediately after opening the foil pouch.
 - Hold the specimen collection tube upright and **unscrew the tip of the specimen collection tube**. Invert the specimen collection tube and **transfer 3 full drops of the extracted specimen** (approximately 120 µL) to each of the specimen well(S) of the test cassette, then start the timer. Avoid trapping air bubbles in the specimen well (S). See illustration below.
 - Read the results at **10 minutes** after dispensing the specimen. Do not read results after 20 minutes.
- Note:** If the specimen does not migrate (presence of particles), centrifuge the diluted sample contained in the extraction buffer vial. Collect 120µL of supernatant, dispense into the specimen well (S). Start the timer and continue from step 5 onwards in the above instructions for use.



【INTERPRETING RESULTS】

The test results appear in three different test windows respectively for GDH, Toxin A or Toxin B. The interpretation criteria remain the same for positivity or negativity for specific antigens under tests as per indication of the respective Test window. The results are to be interpreted as follows:

POSITIVE: Two distinct colored lines appear. One colored line should be in the control line region (C) and another apparent colored line should be in the test line region (T).

***NOTE:** The intensity of the color in the test line region (T) will vary depending on the concentration of *Clostridium difficile* antigens present in the specimen. Therefore, any shade of color in the test line region (T) should be considered positive.

NEGATIVE: One colored line appears in the control line region (C). No line appears in the test line region (T).

INVALID: Control line (C) fails to appear. Insufficient specimen volume or incorrect procedural techniques are the most likely reasons for control line failure. Review the procedure and repeat the test with a new test. If the problem persists, discontinue using the test kit immediately and contact your local distributor.

【QUALITY CONTROL】

An internal procedural control is included in the test. A colored line appearing in the control line region (C) is an internal positive procedural control. It confirms sufficient specimen volume, adequate membrane wicking and correct procedural technique.

Control standards are not supplied with this kit; however, 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.

【LIMITATION】

- The *Clostridium difficile* GDH +Toxin A +Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette (Feces) is for *in vitro* diagnostic use only.
- The test is qualitative and cannot predict the quantity of antigens present in the sample. Clinical presentation and other test results must be taken into consideration to establish diagnosis.
- A positive test does not rule out the possibility that other pathogens may be present.

【EXPECT VALUE】

In a healthy individual's fecal specimens, *Clostridium difficile* test should give negative test result for any of the antigens tested. The *Clostridium difficile* GDH+Toxin A+Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette (Feces) has been compared with another leading commercial rapid test. The correlation between two systems is 95.3% for *C.diff* GDH and 96.0% for *C.diff* Toxin A and 94.7% for Toxin B.

【PERFORMANCE】

Detection Limit

Detection limit values of *Clostridium difficile* GDH+Toxin A+Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette was 1ng/ml for GDH, 2ng/ml for Toxin A and 7ng/ml for Toxin B.

Sensitivity - Specificity

Clostridium difficile GDH Results

Method		Other Rapid Test		Total Results
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> GDH +Toxin A +Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette (Feces)	Results	Positive	Negative	
	Positive	116	8	124
	Negative	6	170	176
Total Results		122	178	300

Relative Sensitivity: 95.1% (95%CI:*89.6%-98.2%)
Relative Specificity: 95.5% (95%CI:*91.3%-98.0%)
Relative Accuracy: 95.3% (95%CI:*92.3%-97.4%)

Clostridium difficile Toxin A Results

Method		Other Rapid Test		Total Results
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> GDH +Toxin A +Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette (Feces)	Results	Positive	Negative	
	Positive	115	5	120
	Negative	7	173	180
Total Results		122	178	300

Relative Sensitivity: 94.3% (95%CI:*88.5%-97.7%)
Relative Specificity: 97.2% (95%CI:*93.6%-99.1%)
Relative Accuracy: 96.0% (95%CI:*93.1%-97.9%)

Clostridium difficile Toxin B Results

Method		Other Rapid Test		Total Results
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> GDH +Toxin A +Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette (Feces)	Results	Positive	Negative	
	Positive	112	6	118
	Negative	10	172	182
Total Results		122	178	300

Relative Sensitivity: 91.8% (95%CI:*85.4%-96.0%)
Relative Specificity: 96.6% (95%CI:*92.8%-98.8%)
Relative Accuracy: 94.7% (95%CI:*91.5%-96.9%)

Precision

Intra-assay and inter-assay

To check intra-batch accuracy (repeatability), the same positive samples and a buffer solution were processed 3 times on test kits of the same batch number in the same experimental conditions. All observed results were confirmed as expected.

To check inter-batch accuracy (reproducibility), same samples (positive and buffer) were processed on test kits from three different batches. All results were confirmed as expected.

Cross Reactivity

An evaluation was performed to determine the cross reactivity of *Clostridium difficile* GDH +Toxin A +Toxin B Combo Rapid Test Cassette (Feces). No cross reactivity against gastrointestinal pathogens occasionally present as follows:

<i>Salmonella enteritidis</i>	<i>Shigella dysenteriae</i>
<i>Campylobacter coli</i>	<i>Shigella flexneri</i>
<i>Salmonella paratyphi</i>	<i>Shigella sonnei</i>
<i>Salmonella typhi</i>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>
<i>Shigella boydii</i>	

Interfering Substances

The following potentially interfering Substances were added to *Clostridium difficile* GDH+Toxin A+Toxin B negative and positive specimens.

Ascorbic acid: 20mg/dl	Oxalic acid: 60mg/dl	Bilirubin: 100mg/dl
Uric acid: 60mg/dl	Aspirin: 20mg/dl	Urea: 2000mg/dl
Glucose: 2000mg/dl	Caffeine: 40mg/dl	Albumin: 2000mg/dl

【BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES】

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