



INTENDED USE

Clarity hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip is a rapid chromatographic immunoassay for the qualitative detection of human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG) in urine to aid in the early detection of pregnancy. For professional in vitro diagnostic use only.

SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

hCG is a glycoprotein hormone produced by the developing placenta shortly after fertilization. In normal pregnancy, hCG can be detected in urine as early as 7 to 10 days after conception. hCG levels continue to rise very rapidly, frequently exceeding 100 mIU/mL by the first missed menstrual period, and peaking in the 100,000-200,000 mIU/mL range about 10-12 weeks into pregnancy. The appearance of hCG in urine soon after conception, and its subsequent rapid rise in concentration during early gestational growth, makes it an excellent marker for the early detection of pregnancy.

Clarity hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip is a rapid test that qualitatively detects the presence of hCG in urine specimen at the sensitivity of 20 mIU/mL. The test utilizes a combination of monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies to selectively detect elevated levels of hCG in urine. At the level of claimed sensitivity, **Clarity** hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip shows no cross-reactivity interference from the structurally related glycoprotein hormones hFSH, hLH and hTSH at high physiological levels.

PRINCIPLE OF TEST

Clarity hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip is a rapid chromatographic immunoassay for the qualitative detection of human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG) in urine to aid in the early detection of pregnancy. The test utilizes a combination of antibodies including a monoclonal hCG antibody to selectively detect elevated levels of hCG. The assay is conducted by dipping the strips into urine specimens to observe the formation of pink colored lines. The specimen migrates via capillary action along the membrane to react with the colored conjugate.

Positive specimens react with the specific antibody-hCG-colored conjugate and form a pink colored line at the test line region of the membrane. Absence of this pink colored line suggests a negative result. To serve as a procedural control, a pink colored line will always appear at the control line region if the test has been performed properly.

REAGENTS

Coated Antibodies:

Control region: Goat anti-mouse (IgG) polyclonal antibody
 Test region: Mouse monoclonal anti-hCG antibody A

Labeled Antibodies:

Colloidal gold conjugate of monoclonal anti-hCG antibody B

WARNINGS & PRECAUTION

- 1) In vitro diagnostic use for professional use only.
- 2) Do not use test kit beyond the expiration date.
- 3) The test strips should not be reused.
- 4) Urine specimens may be infectious; ensure proper handling and dispose of all used reaction devices into a biohazard container.

MATERIALS PROVIDED

- 1) **Clarity** hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip
- 2) Instructions for use

MATERIALS NEEDED BUT NOT PROVIDED

- 1) Clean glass or plastic container for specimen collection
- 2) Timer

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

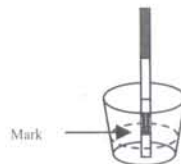
A fresh urine specimen should be used, no special pre-treatment is necessary. Specimens should be collected in a clean glass or plastic container. No centrifugation or filtration of urine is required.

The specimen may be refrigerated 35 to 46°F (2 to 8°C) and stored up to 2 days. For longer storage, freeze samples at -4°F (-20°C) or below. Refrigerated samples should be allowed to come to room temperature and mixed thoroughly before assaying. Frozen samples should be thawed completely, allowed to come to room temperature, and mixed thoroughly before assaying.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Allow the test and the specimen to equilibrate to room temperature 59 to 86°F (15 to 30°C) prior to testing.

1. To begin testing, open the sealed pouch by tearing along the notch. Remove the test strip from the pouch and use it as soon as possible.
2. Dip the strip with arrow pointing down into the urine sample for about 10 seconds. Do not immerse past the "Mark" line. Take the strip out and lay it flat on a clean, dry and non-absorbent surface.
3. Wait for the pink colored bands to appear. Depending on the concentration of hCG in the test specimen, positive results may be observed in as soon as 40 seconds. However, to confirm negative results, the complete reaction time of 5 minutes is required. It is important that the background is clear before the result is read. Do not interpret the result after 10 minutes.

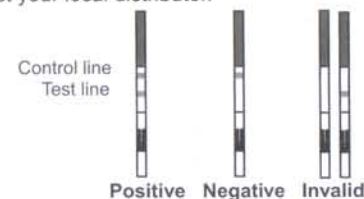


INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Negative: Only one pink colored band appears on the control region. No apparent band on the test region.

Positive: Distinct pink color bands appear on the control and test regions. The color intensity of the test bands may vary since different stages of pregnancy have different concentrations of hCG hormone.

Invalid: No line appears in the control zone "C", the test should be voided since an improper test procedure may have been performed or deterioration of reagents may have occurred. This is due to the internal control built in, in which a distinct control region (C) line should always appear. Repeat the test using a new strip. If the problem persists, discontinue using the test kit immediately and contact your local distributor.



STORAGE AND STABILITY

The test kit can be stored at temperatures between 35 to 86°F (2 to 30°C) in the sealed pouch to the date of expiration. The test kit should be kept away from direct sunlight, moisture and heat. The expiration dating was established under these storage conditions.

QUALITY CONTROL

A pink line appearing in the control region (C) is the internal procedural control. It confirms sufficient specimen volume and correct procedural technique. A clear background is an internal negative background control. If the test is working properly, the background in the result area should be white to light pink and not interfere with the ability to read the test result.

External controls may also be used to assure that the reagents are working properly and that the assay procedure is followed correctly. It is recommended that a control be tested at regular intervals as good laboratory testing procedures.

Users should follow the appropriate federal, state, and local guidelines concerning the running of external quality controls.

LIMITATIONS

1. False negative results may occur when the levels of hCG are below the sensitivity level of the test. When pregnancy is still suspected, a first morning urine should be collected 48 hours later and tested.
2. This test has been developed for testing urine samples only. The performance of this test using other specimens has not been substantiated.
3. Very dilute urine specimens, as indicated by a low specific gravity, may not contain representative levels of hCG. If pregnancy is still suspected, a first morning urine specimen should be collected 48 hours later and tested.
4. Very low levels of hCG (less than 50 mIU/mL) are present in urine specimen shortly after implantation. However, because a significant number of first trimester pregnancies terminate for natural reasons, a weakly positive result should be confirmed by retesting with a first morning urine collected 48 hours later.

5. 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. Therefore, the presence of hCG in urine should not be used to diagnose pregnancy unless these conditions have been ruled out.
6. 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.
7. This test provides a presumptive diagnosis for pregnancy. A confirmed pregnancy diagnosis should only be made by a physician after all clinical and laboratory findings have been evaluated.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

High Dose Effect

Normal urine samples that were spiked with hCG concentrations of 62,500, 125,000, 250,000, 500,000, 1,000,000, and 2,000,000 mIU/mL were used to study the high dose hook effect on **Clarity** hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip. It was noticed that both color bands at the test band region and the control region were visible. However, when hCG levels were over 5,000 mIU/mL, the higher the hCG concentration became, the lighter the band at the test region became.

Accuracy

An internal clinical evaluation was conducted comparing the results obtained using the **Clarity** hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip to another commercially available hCG Pregnancy Test. The study included 120 positive or negative urine spiked samples. The results demonstrated 98.3% agreement when trained technicians performed comparison testing on the tests. The results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Comparison between Clarity Strips vs. Predicate Urine Strip Format – Urine Samples

		Predicate		Subtotal
		+	-	
Clarity hCG strip	+	59	1	60
	-	1	59	60
Subtotal		60	60	120

Percent Accuracy = 98.3%
Discrepant Results = 1.7%

Sensitivity

Clarity hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip detects urine hCG concentrations greater than 20 mIU/mL as indicated by the appearance of a color band at the test region. Occasionally, samples containing less than 20 mIU/mL hCG may also produce a positive result.

Experiments were carried out to evaluate the sensitivity of **Clarity** hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip at low levels of hCG. Urine samples from 120 known non-pregnant subjects were spiked with hCG to the concentrations of 0, 10, 15, 20, 40, 100 mIU/mL.

A total of twenty samples at each concentration were performed and blindly labeled and tested. The results are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: Sensitivity of Clarity hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip – Urine Samples

hCG added	0	10	15	20	40	100
# Samples	20	20	20	20	20	20
Negative	20	20	19	1	0	0
Positive	0	0	1	19	20	20

Specificity

Specificity of **Clarity** hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip was determined from cross-reaction studies with known amounts of luteinizing hormone (LH), follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), and thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH). Samples of urine with different hCG concentrations were mixed individually with 300mIU LH/mL, 1000mIU FSH/mL, and 1000µIU TSH/mL and gave expected results. The results were done in-house by trained technicians in a two-day process. The results, which have been pooled together due to little variance are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Specificity of Clarity hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip

hCG conc. in sample (mIU/mL)	Unspiked urine samples	Urine samples spiked with homologous hormones		
		FSH	LH	TSH
		1000 mIU/mL	300 mIU/mL	1000 µIU/mL
0	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
20	+	+	+	+
	+	+	+	+
	+	+	+	+
100	+	+	+	+
	+	+	+	+
	+	+	+	+

Interfering substances

The **Clarity** hCG Pregnancy Test Strip was checked for possible interference from visibly hemolyzed, lipemic and icteric samples. Human hemoglobin, bilirubin or albumin was spiked into urine samples with different concentration of hCG and tested using unspiked samples as controls. No significant interference was observed in 20 sample testing results that were either positive or negative for hCG. The results, which have been pooled together due to little variance are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Non-Specific Interference on Clarity hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip

Sample No	Unspiked samples	Urine samples spiked with (mg/mL)		
		Hemoglobin	Bilirubin	Albumin
		10	1	0.06
1	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-
6	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-

9	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-
11	+	+	+	+	+
12	+	+	+	+	+
13	+	+	+	+	+
14	+	+	+	+	+
15	+	+	+	+	+
16	+	+	+	+	+
17	+	+	+	+	+
18	+	+	+	+	+
19	+	+	+	+	+
20	+	+	+	+	+

The following substances were also added in negative hCG, 20mIU hCG/mL and 50mIU hCG/mL spiked urine samples. None of the substances at the concentrations tested interference in this assay when tested with urine strip based test kits. The substances and their concentration are shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Interfering substances on Clarity hCG Pregnancy Urine Test Strip

Substance	Concentration
Acetaminophen	20 mg/mL
Acetylsalicylic acid	20 mg/mL
Albumin	100 mg/mL
Ascorbic Acid	20 mg/mL
Atropine	20 mg/mL
Bilirubin	2 mg/dL
Caffeine	20 mg/mL
Gentestic Acid	20 mg/mL
Glucose	2 g/dL
Hemoglobin	1 mg/dL

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