OneStep HIV 1+2 RapiCard™ InstaTest (WB, Serum, Plasma)

**PRINCIPLE**

The Cortez HIV1+2 RapiCard™ InstaTest (Whole Blood/Serum/Plasma) is a rapid test to qualitatively detect the presence of antibodies to HIV 1 and/or HIV 2 in whole blood, serum or plasma specimen. The test utilizes latex conjugate and recombinant HIV antigens. During testing, the whole blood, serum or plasma specimen reacts with HIV antigen coated particles in the test Cassette. The mixture then migrates upward on the membrane chromatographically by capillary action and reacts with recombinant HIV antigen on the membrane in the test line region. If the specimen contains antibodies to HIV 1 and/or HIV 2, a colored line will appear in the test line region, indicating a positive result. If the specimen does not contain HIV 1 and/or HIV 2 antibodies, a colored line will not appear in the test line region, indicating a negative result. To serve as a procedural control, a colored line will always appear in the control line region, indicating a negative result. To serve as a procedural control, a colored line will always appear in the control line region, indicating a negative result.

**MATERIAL AND REAGENTS**

**Materials provided with the test kits**

- Test Cassette(s)
- Droppers
- Buffer
- Package insert

**Materials required but not provided**

- Specimen collection containers
- Timer
- Centrifuge

**SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION**

- To collect Fingerstick Whole Blood specimens:
  - Wash the patient’s hand with soap and warm water or clean with an alcohol swab. Allow to dry.
  - Massage the hand without touching the puncture site by rubbing down the hand towards the fingertip of the middle or ring finger.
  - Puncture the skin with a sterile lancet. Wipe away the first sign of blood.
  - Gently rub the hand from wrist to palm to finger to form a rounded drop of blood over the puncture site.
  - Add the Fingerstick Whole Blood specimen to the test by using a capillary tube:
    - Touch the end of the capillary tube to the blood until filled to approximately 50 μL. Avoid air bubbles.
    - Place the bulb onto the top end of the capillary tube, then squeeze the bulb to dispense the whole blood to the specimen area of the test Cassette.
  - Add the Fingerstick Whole Blood specimen to the test by using hanging drops:
    - Position the patient’s finger so that the drop of blood is just above the specimen area of the test Cassette.
    - Allow 2 hanging drops of fingerstick whole blood to fall into the center of the specimen area on the test Cassette, or move the patient’s finger so that the hanging drop touches the center of the specimen area. Avoid touching the finger directly to the specimen area.
    - Separate serum or plasma from blood as soon as possible to avoid hemolysis. Use only clear non-hemolyzed specimens.
    - Testing should be performed immediately after the specimens have been collected. Do not leave the specimens at room temperature for prolonged periods. Serum and plasma specimens may be stored at 2-8°C for up to 3 days. For long term storage, specimens should be kept below -20°C. Whole blood collected by venipuncture should be stored at 2-8°C if the test is to be run within 2 days of collection.

**SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION**

HIV is the etiologic agent of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The virion is surrounded by a lipid envelope that is derived from host cell membrane. Several viral glycoproteins are on the envelope. Each virus contains two copies of positive-sense genomic RNAs. HIV 1 has been isolated from West African AIDS patients and from seropositive asymptomatic individuals. Both HIV 1 and HIV 2 elicit immune response. Detection of HIV antibodies in serum, plasma is the most efficient and common way to determine whether an individual has been exposed to HIV and to screen blood and blood products for HIV. Despite the differences in their biological characteristics, serological activities and genome sequences, HIV 1 and HIV 2 show strong antigenic cross-reactivity. Most HIV 2 positive sera can be identified by using HIV 1 based serological tests.

The Cortez HIV1+2 RapiCard™ InstaTest (Whole Blood/Serum/Plasma) is a rapid test to qualitatively detect the presence of antibody to HIV 1 and/or HIV 2 in whole blood, serum or plasma specimen. The test utilizes latex conjugate and multiple recombinant HIV proteins to selectively detect antibodies to the HIV 1/2 in whole blood, serum or plasma.

**SPECIFICITY AND SENSITIVITY**

- **Sensitivity:** 99%
- **Specificity:** 99%
collection. Do not freeze whole blood specimens. Whole blood collected by fingerstick should be tested immediately.
• Bring specimens to room temperature prior to testing. Frozen specimens must be completely thawed and mixed well prior to testing. Specimens should not be frozen and thawed repeatedly.
• If specimens are to be shipped, they should be packed in compliance with local regulations covering the transportation of etiologic agents.

PRECAUTION
• For professional in vitro diagnostic use only. Do not use after expiration date.
• Do not eat, drink or smoke in the area where the specimens or test Cassette are handled.
• Do not use test if pouch is damaged.
• 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.

ASSAY PROCEDURE
Allow the test, specimen, buffer and/or controls to reach room temperature (15-30°C) prior to testing.
1. Bring the pouch to room temperature before opening it. Remove the test Cassette from the sealed pouch and use it as soon as possible.
2. Place the Cassette on a clean and level surface.
For Serum or Plasma specimen: Hold the dropper vertically and transfer 1 drop of serum or plasma (approximately 25µL) to the specimen area, then add 1 drop of buffer (approximately 40 µL), and start the timer, see illustration below.
For Venipuncture Whole Blood specimen: Hold the dropper vertically and transfer 2 drops of whole blood (approximately 50 µL) to the specimen area, then add 2 drops of buffer (approximately 80 µL), and start the timer. See illustration below.

For **Fingerstick Whole Blood** specimen:
• To use a capillary tube: Fill the capillary tube and transfer approximately 50 µL of fingerstick whole blood specimen to the specimen area of test Cassette, then add 2 drops of buffer (approximately 80 µL) and start the timer. See illustration below.
• To use hanging drops: Allow 2 hanging drops of fingerstick whole blood specimen (approximately 50 µL) to fall into the specimen area of test Cassette, then add 2 drops of buffer (approximately 80 µL) and start the timer. See illustration below.
3. Wait for the colored line(s) to appear. **Read results at 10 minutes.** Do not interpret the result after **20 minutes.**

RESULTS
(please refer to the illustration above)
**POSITIVE:** Two 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 HIV antibodies 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 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 Cassette immediately and contact your local distributor.

EXPECTED VALUES
The Cortez HIV1+2 RapiCard™ InstaTest (Whole Blood/ Serum/ Plasma) has been compared with a leading commercial HIV EIA test. The correlation between these two systems is 99.9%.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

### Sensitivity and Specificity
The Cortez HIV1+2 RapiCard™ InstaTest (Whole Blood/ Serum/ Plasma) has correctly identified specimens of a seroconversion panel and has been compared to a leading commercial ELISA HIV test using clinical specimens. The results show that the relative sensitivity of the HIV 1/2 Rapid Test Cassette (Whole Blood/ Serum/ Plasma) is >99.9% and the relative specificity is 99.9%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>ELISA Result</th>
<th>Total Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Cortez HIV1+2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RapiCard™ InstaTest</td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>Negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Whole Blood/ Serum/ Plasma)</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>925</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Result:** 108 / 926 / 1034

Relative sensitivity: >99.9% (95%CI*: 97.3%–100%); Relative specificity: 99.9% (95%CI*: 99.4%–100%); Accuracy: 99.9% (95%CI*: 99.5%–100%).
*Confidence Intervals

### Precision
**Intra-Assay**
Within-run precision has been determined by using 15 replicates of four specimens: a negative, a low positive, a medium positive and a high positive. The negative, low positive, medium positive and high positive values were correctly identified >99% of the time.

**Inter-Assay**
Between-run precision has been determined by 15 independent assays on the same four specimens: a negative, a low positive, a medium positive and a high positive. Three different lots of the HIV 1/2 Rapid Test Cassette (Whole Blood/ Serum/ Plasma) have been tested over a 3-day period using negative, low positive,
medium positive and high positive specimens. The specimens were correctly identified >99% of the time.

Cross-reactivity
The Cortez HIV1+2 RapiCard™ InstaTest (Whole Blood/Serum/Plasma) has been tested by HAMA, RF, HBsAg, HBsAb, HBeAg, HBeAb, HBCAb, HCV, Syphilis, H. Pylori, MONO, CMV, Rubella and TOXO positive specimens. The results showed no cross-reactivity.

Interfering Substances
The following potentially interfering substances were added to HIV negative and positive specimens. Acetaminophen: 20 mg/dL Caffeine: 20 mg/dL Acetylsalicylic Acid: 20 mg/dL Gentisic Acid: 20 mg/dL Creatin: 200 mg/dL Hemoglobin: 1.1 mg/dL Bilirubin: 1g/dL Oxalic Acid: 600mg/dL

None of the substances at the concentration tested interfered in the assay.

LIMITATIONS OF PROCEDURE
1. The Cortez HIV1+2 RapiCard™ InstaTest (Whole Blood/Serum/Plasma) is for in vitro diagnostic use only. The test should be used for the detection of HIV antibodies in whole blood, serum or plasma specimens only. Neither the quantitative value nor the rate of increase in HIV antibodies can be determined by this qualitative test.

2. The Cortez HIV1+2 RapiCard™ InstaTest (Whole Blood/Serum/Plasma) will only indicate the presence of HIV antibodies in the specimen and should not be used as the sole criteria for the diagnosis of HIV infection.

3. As with all diagnostic tests, all results must be interpreted together with other clinical information available to the physician. If the test result is negative and clinical symptoms persist, additional testing using other clinical methods is recommended. A negative result does not at any time preclude the possibility of HIV infection.

QUALITY CONTROL
A procedural control is included in the test. A colored line appearing in the control line region (C) is considered an internal procedural control. It confirms sufficient specimen volume, adequate membrane wicking and correct procedural technique. Control standards are not supplied with this test Cassette; 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.

BIBLIOGRAPHY